



School Uniform Policy

Date agreed: October 2023

Review Date: October 2028

1. Aims:

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of the school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers
- We will do this by:
 - Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics such as logos are necessary, and limit them to low-cost and long-lasting items only.
 - Limiting any compulsory items with distinctive characteristics such as logos
 - Avoiding specific requirements for items that pupils could wear on non-school days..
 - We do not require (and actually discourage) children to wear any branded items, so that our school uniform can act as a social leveller
 - Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups.
 - Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
 - Providing children with a sports kit when they take part in sports competitions

- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school uniform

Children from Reception to Year 6 are expected to wear:

- A purple polo-shirt, cardigan or jumper with a school logo
- The following items a part of our school uniform but can be bought from a range of suppliers so that parents can shop around:
 - Grey school type trousers, shorts, or skirt.
 - A purple and white gingham gingham or grey dress
 - White socks.
 - Black shoes (closed toes and closed back)
 - PE: non-branded white T-shirt and black shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings worn with trainers or plimsolls.
 - Swimming: swimming cap and tightfitting swimming trunks or swimming costume
- The following items are optional:
 - Grey/ black tights or leggings (but only if wearing under a skirt or dress)
 - Purple book bag and backpack with school logo
 - A white polo shirt without a logo can be worn, but only if it is underneath a cardigan or jumper
 - Coats: suitable to keep children warm and dry
 - Plain white, purple, grey or black head scarf/ hijab
 - Plain sports hijab
 - Jewellery (but no hoop earrings)
 - Swimming goggles
- We do not have any particular requirements with regards to hairstyles to avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010)

4.2 The cost of the school uniform, and where to purchase or obtain it

- Our uniform is sold by:
 - Ocean Design School Wear, 10 Watney Market, London E1 2PR
 - Khalsa School Wear Bethnal Green, 388-390 Bethnal Grn Rd, London E2 0AH
 - Online Andrew Hyde Schoolwear <https://ahyde.co.uk/collections/stepney-park-primary-school>
- We have a lost property box in the South playground and regularly encourage parents to find lost clothes there.
- We will wash unclaimed lost property at regular intervals and invite parents in to obtain uniform items free of charge
- Our arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money; for example we avoid single supplier contracts, so that prices will remain competitive.
- We will regularly contact our suppliers to ensure that our uniform continues to be sold to parents at reasonable prices.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times, (other than on specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

5.2 Parents and carers

- Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE/ swimming kit, and that every item is:
 - Clean
 - Clearly labelled with the child's name
 - In good condition
- Parents are also expected to contact a member of the Senior Leadership team if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:
 - Their child's protected characteristics
 - A medical condition (for example eczema)
 - Financial hardship
- Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.
- Disputes about the school uniform will be dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy
- The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome. 5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform. They will speak to parents of children who do not wear the correct uniform and give them the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not being able to comply with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation. This may occasionally involve helping parents with the cost of polo shirts or jumpers which require a logo.

5.4 Governors

The governing body will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils
- Offers a uniform that offers good value for money

6.0 Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed at least every 5 years. At every review, it will be approved by the governing body.