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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

Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we specify is affordable, in line with the 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 branded 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 are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year / class / house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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 on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

Our school uniform aims to be inclusive, and we believe it can be worn by all pupils. If you feel there is a reason that your child cannot wear our school uniform due to a protected characteristic please contact the Headteacher to let us know how we can allow for some individual variations to support your child.

Our school uniform

All children in years Reception-6 are expected to wear school uniform. Children in our Nursery are not required to wear school uniform and should attend Nursery in their own clothes. For children in years Reception-6, the uniform is:

- Jade school sweatshirt or cardigan
- White or navy polo shirt
- Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore
- Jade and white checked or striped dress
- Sensible dark shoes (no trainers, heels or slingbacks, and no open-toed sandals in summer)
- Waterproofs
- Wellies / old trainers for use on fields at playtimes
- A hat (in summer)
- A school book bag

PE kit

Children should come to school in their PE kit on days when they have PE, to avoid changing at school. If you are not sure which day your child does PE, please contact your school office.

The uniform to be worn on PE days is:

- White or navy t-shirt
- Navy shorts / tracksuit bottoms
- Navy hoodie or jumper
- Plimsolls or trainers

For outdoor physical activities, a navy hoodie or jumper, navy jogging bottoms, and trainers are necessary for use in colder and / or damp weather.

Where to purchase school uniform

School-specific items (a jumper with the school logo on it) are available from:
Scholars
55/56 Fore Street
Trowbridge
BA14 8ET
01225 753586

All other items can be bought more widely, e.g. from high-street retailers.

Our school has an active Parent Teacher Association (PTA), who arrange second-hand uniform sales throughout the school year. Our school also has a second-hand uniform ‘swap box’ located outside the main reception. Please contact the school office for more information about what is available.

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

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

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

Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner. Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy 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 complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

Governance

The Board of Trustees will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The Board will also make sure that uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years. At every review, it will be approved by the Governing Body.