School uniform policy

Calmore Infant School



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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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- > Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, Mrs Willes at the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory <u>guidance</u> 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 and provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Restricting the number of items that feature the school logo and allowing plain items without a logo.
- Including cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as plain jumpers, cardigans and tshirts readily available from supermarkets.
- 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 groups and for extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items of a high quality
- 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's uniform

- > Plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit trousers (no logos on please)
- > Navy Jumper, cardigan, fleece with or without school logo.
- > White polo shirt, with or without school logo
- > Navy and white striped or gingham summer dress (not to be worn on PE days)
- Black or white trainers need to be worn on PE days. If laces, children need to be able to tie them independently.
- Black shoes that are suitable for running, no open toe sandals or flip flops. If laces, children need to be able to tie them independently.

4.2 Our school's PE uniform, to be worn all day on PE days.

- > Plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit trousers (no logos on please)
- > Navy Jumper, cardigan, fleece with or without school logo.
- > White T-shirt with or without school logo.

4.3 Additional items required

The children will be outdoors in all weathers. We do not stop going outside if it is cold or raining. Therefore, all children need the following;

- Plain black Plain Wellington boots to stay in school
- > A pair of named wellington boots to stay in school
- > A mud suit / waterproof coat if possible
- If your child wears earrings, <u>please provide a roll of tape (clearly named)</u> so that the earrings may be covered during PE/dance sessions.

4.4 Where to purchase it

- Our uniform is available from Mapac, a link is on our website and can be delivered to school to save postage costs. Where
- > We have a second hand uniform shed in our playground, with a large number of good quality clothing available at £1 an item.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher, Mrs Willes at the school office, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 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, Mrs Willes at the school office, 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 school's complaints policy

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

5.3 Staff

Staff will support monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform, appropriate for an active curriculum and outdoor play in all weathers. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the support to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation causes concern.

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.

5.4 Governors

The governing board 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

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by retendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- > Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statement
- > Anti-bullying policy
- > Complaints policy