

Uniform policy



Wansdyke
Primary School

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1. Principles and Aims

Principles

It is our policy that all children should wear clothing that is in keeping with our school ethos. We take pride in our school and believe that uniform is an essential part of our school identity. We therefore expect parents to support our school's dress code. We provide a complete list of the items needed for our school uniform below. In writing this policy, our school has taken into account the DfE statutory guidance 'Cost of School Uniforms' (2021) and non-statutory guidance 'School Uniforms' (2021).

Aims

Our aims are based on the belief that school uniform;

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- Is practical, safe and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Is not distracting in class (as fashion items might be)
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents

This policy:

- Sets out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explains how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarifies 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 (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
 - 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
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- 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 our Learning Mentor, Mrs Kidd, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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 [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 are necessary
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as all school branded items being optional
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups as much as possible
- 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 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

All uniform branded with Wansdyke's logo is optional. The uniform colours are emerald green, grey/black and white and the uniform is as follows:

Standard uniform

- White polo shirt, with or without school logo, white cotton shirt or blouse
- Emerald green sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper, with or without school logo
- Black or grey trousers, shorts or skirt

- Trousers must be straight legged and tailored, not bootleg, combat, skinny or hipster.
- Emerald green gingham dresses may be worn in the summer terms
- Children wearing dresses/skirts may wear cycling shorts underneath for when they engage in physical activity at playtimes
- Socks – white, grey or black. Tights should be grey or black.

PE kit (worn to school on PE days)

- White t-shirt, preferably with the school logo and house name in colour
- Green school jumper or cardigan
- Plain black (no logos/ brands/ stripes) shorts, leggings or joggers.
- Trainers, not daps (any colour)
- Long hair should be tied back on days when your child has PE lessons

Footwear

Black, leather shoes with a flat heel (girls may wear plain black leather boots with a flat heel). We recommend shoes that are quick and easy to fasten; laces should only be worn by children who can tie them. These shoes are NOT to be worn for PE.

Jewellery

We do not allow children to wear any jewellery or wrist bands other than one stud in each ear (these should be removed or taped over for PE if newly pierced). A watch may be worn if appropriate. Nail varnish and temporary tattoos should also not be worn.

Make up, cosmetics and hair

Make up and cosmetics are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform. The school does not permit such products to be worn by any children, unless there is a specific event for which the Head Teacher has given permission. Children should come to school with their natural hair colour.

Bags

The school will provide every child with a transparent folder (with green handle) in which children must bring their reading book and diary (Phase 1) or planner (Phase 2) to and from school. Rucksacks are not allowed to be brought into school. Only children in Year 6 are allowed to bring in a drawstring bag each day to keep any additional items that they may need.

All clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with your child's name on it. We cannot be responsible for any school uniform that is lost in school.

Enforcement

We recognise that there are occasions when uniform is lost, damaged and or needs to be replaced and that pupils may need to come to school in alternative clothing. In such circumstances the office or class teacher should be informed.

However, if your child's uniform does not meet with the school's requirements:

- A letter will be sent home reminding parents of the school's expectations regarding uniform.
- Alternative and appropriate uniform, including footwear will be provided for the children to wear in school.

4.2 Where to purchase uniform

All our uniform items can currently be purchased from Price & Buckland, and non-logo items are freely available to purchase from clothing shops and supermarkets.



We do the following to try and keep the cost of uniform as low as possible for parents and carers:

- We compare the costs of different suppliers each year before setting up our details with a supplier, who will provide embroidered logos.
- Parents are free to purchase non-logo items from anywhere they choose. We do not insist that children need to have any uniform that is branded or with logos.
- Our 'Friends of Wansdyke' and office staff run a free uniform-exchange at the end of each seasonal term.

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)

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

5.3 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. If the correct uniform is still not worn, this will be followed up in writing and the head teacher will be informed.

5.4 Governors

The AGC 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 AGC 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 re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the AGC

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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