School uniform policy 2024-2027

St Andrew's CE Junior School

Approved by:	[Name]	**Date:**	[Date]
Last reviewed on:	[Date]		
Next review due by:	[Date]		

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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 Equality Act 2010 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/carers to get in touch with the headteacher 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 guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags.
- 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/classes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters, using different coloured sashes etc
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy
- Having a small stock of clean uniform in good condition available where need arises.
- Allowing a proportion of pupil premium funding to be allocated for the purchase of uniform in cases of extreme hardship

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

• Navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan/sky blue polo shirt

• Plain black or grey trousers/black or grey skirt

Hooded tops and football shirts are not allowed

• A blue gingham dress or plain black or grey shorts may be worn during the summer term

• Suitable, sensible black footwear (if wearing boots or wellingtons, please bring a pair of shoes to change into at school) Sports shorts, trainers, sandals, backless shoes and high-heeled shoes are not allowed

• Plain grey or black socks to be worn with trousers/shorts

• Plain grey or white socks to be worn with skirts/dresses (black/grey/white tights may be worn)

• Plain bobbles or headbands may be worn in long hair which should always be tied back and kept neat for school. Shaved hair designs and dyed hair are not allowed

• Only ear studs and a watch may be worn. Jewellery, smart watches, make-up and nail varnish are not allowed

P.E wear comprises of:

• Plain white T shirt with school logo

• Black shorts

• Black pumps/trainers

• Earrings are to be removed or taped over as these constitute a health and safety hazard. Staff will not be allowed to remove jewellery Long hair should be tied back

Sports branded/labelled clothing must not be worn in place of PE uniform

4.2 Where to purchase it

School uniform is available from Brigadoon on Station Road, Hadfield

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 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/carers 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/carers 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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

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, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the headteacher.

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/carers 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 re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the headteacher and Senior Leadership Team. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board

7. Links to other policies/documentation

This policy is linked to our:

- Restorative Justice and Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- School prospectus available on website https://www.standrewshadfield.org/school-prospectus/

Paper copies of this and other policies are available upon request from the school office, free of charge.