



# **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

## **Introduction**

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised event outside normal school hours, where appropriate.

## **Aims and objectives**

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- gives a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children within the school;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.
- Is recyclable at no cost

## **School uniform**

Parents are requested to ensure that their children dress sensibly for school.

Knee-length black/grey skirts - Skirts must be a respectable length (to or just above the knee)

Black/Grey school uniform trousers or black leggings

Yellow or white polo-shirts

Plain school tights

Blue pullovers/sweatshirts or cardigan, purple for Wellbeing Champions and green for School Council

Preferably black school shoes/trainers (Due to the cost of living crisis we are being flexible with footwear)

A blue gingham dress or school uniform grey shorts are a summer alternative.

Nursery children can wear the school uniform but this is not compulsory.

We also have a PE uniform which consists of blue shorts and a yellow T-shirt with the school logo on. Children in KS2 will also need plimsolls or trainers, socks and blue tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE. Please speak to your class teacher if you need a school PE uniform. When children attend swimming lessons they need a one-piece swimming costume/ trunks and a towel. Children do not need a swimming hat but can wear goggles if they would like to.

Parents are advised to label clothing with their child's name so that lost items can easily be traced.

Items of uniform are available to order by following the link on the school website or to purchase from Cathy's shop in Tow Law. The school is happy for parents to purchase items with the school logo or without from alternative providers.

The school also regularly recycles items of uniform at no cost and supports the use of the Benevolent Fund. If you require help with uniform please contact Lisa Jackson, Headteacher, who will be happy to assist.

### Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school, this includes all earrings; plastic and metal. WE ADVISE THAT PUPILS WHO WISH TO GET THEIR EARS PIERCED DO THIS AT THE START OF THE 6 WEEKS HOLIDAY IN ORDER TO ALLOW THEM TO HEAL. PLEASE SEE THE LINK BELOW FOR GUIDANCE FROM H SAMUEL JEWELLERS ON OUR WEBSITE.

<https://www.towlaw.durham.sch.uk/parents/our-school-uniform/>

The exception to this rule is a watch and small objects of religious significance. Wearing jewellery for religious reasons will be discussed with the headteacher and an individual risk assessment will be put in place. We ask that these objects be removed during PE and games for health and safety reasons.

### Make up

Makeup and nail varnish are not allowed and if children come into school wearing either they will be asked to remove it.

### Long Hair (hair below the shoulder)

On the grounds of health and safety, Governors took the decision that children with long hair should have it tied back at all times.

### Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. All children need to wear plain black shoes/trainers as stated in the uniform list. In the Summer term, flat sandals can be worn, however non-fastening sandals are inappropriate. In the winter, flat black boots are accepted depending on weather conditions. In adverse weather, children need to come to school in wellies/hiking boots and bring school shoes to wear inside.

### Equipment

The only other equipment children require for school is a school bag, this doesn't need to have the school logo on. The reception children will be provided with a book bag when they start school.

### The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

### The role of governors

The governing body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

#### Monitoring and review

It is the responsibility of the governing body to monitor and review the school uniform policy by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the Headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

**Date last updated: March 2023**

**Review date: Spring 2025**