



Uniform Policy

2023-2024

Document Control Table

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Contents

1. Aims
2. The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
4. Expectations for school uniform
5. Expectations for our school community
6. Monitoring arrangements

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- set out the school's approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers;
- explain how the school will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010;
- clarify expectations for school uniform.

2. The 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. In order to avoid discrimination, the 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 school reserves 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 (as deemed by the school leadership team) yet makes them feel most comfortable;
- allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons;
- allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols;
- allow for adaptations to the policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Head of School (on 01902 921166), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

3. Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

Woodthorne Primary School has a duty to make sure that the uniform required is affordable and is in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform. This is of even more importance to Woodthorne Primary School due to the current economic climate and with school Pupil Premium figures rising rapidly in our school community.

The school understands that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items or items that must 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. Therefore, the school will make sure its school uniform:

- is available at a reasonable cost;
- provides the best value for money for parents/carers.

The school 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 or long-lasting items;
- considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability;
- 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;
- avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities;
- considering alternative methods for signalling 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 via our uniform swap shop;
- 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

Woodthorne Primary School's uniform:

- cardigan/ jumper – burgundy (Cardigans/ jumpers with the school logo are available but not a requirement, see details below);
- skirt/ pinafore/ trousers – grey or black;
- blouse/ polo shirt – white;
- red with white check school summer dresses/ grey/ black shorts may be worn in the summer months;
- socks/ tights/ leggings – black/ grey/ white;
- shoes – low heeled, black (No trainers);
- coat;
- headscarves – black/ red/ white (for those pupils who wear them)
- bag/ book bag is advised.

PE Kit Parents must provide:

- a maroon active wear t-shirt;
- black shorts or plain black tracksuit bottoms (Winter – outdoors);
- plain black quarter zip sweatshirt- no hoods (Winter – outdoors);
- trainers (outdoor PE) and black pumps (indoor PE).

Information for where to purchase uniforms with logos can be found below.

For PE sessions, to ensure the health and safety of all children, jewellery must be removed. Stud earrings which cannot currently be removed must be covered with plasters (which are provided by school). Swimming Kit Parents/ carers will be informed if their child is going swimming in advance of their first lesson. The kit required for swimming is based on the requirements of and risk assessments carried out by the leisure centre who provide the lessons.

These are:

- swim shorts which do not go past the knee or a one-piece swimming costume;
- a swimming cap for those with long hair (these can be borrowed from school or provided from home if you wish)
- a towel;

- no jewellery can be worn.

Jewellery, Hairstyles, Make-up and Fingernails

In line with school risk assessments, no jewellery is to be worn other than stud earrings and a watch (no smart watches). Pupils are allowed to have long hair (though school reserves the right to ask for this to be tied back), with all pupils able to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school (as deemed by the school leadership team) yet makes them feel most comfortable. Pupils are not permitted to have their hair dyed. Pupils are not permitted to wear make-up, nail varnish or false nails in school. Fingernails must be kept at an appropriate length (so as to ensure all children can take part in PE without the possibility of injuring themselves or others).

Where to Purchase School Uniform

Formal school uniform with or without the school logo is available from:

Lads and Lasses- shops located in Penn, Codsall and Bridgnorth

[Lads & Lasses Schoolwear | School & Work Uniforms | Shop Online \(ladsandlassesschoolwear.co.uk\)](http://ladsandlassesschoolwear.co.uk)

Active Wear uniform with or without school logo is available from:

Summit Sports Ltd- summitsports22@gmail.com

An active uniform 'pop-up shop' is held at school throughout the final week of the Summer term.

All other uniform and non-branded cardigans and jumpers can be purchased from any high-street retailer. Good quality second hand uniform can be purchased from Woodthorne's Uniform swap Shop for free. This is located in the main school reception area and is accessible every day.

5. 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 (unless otherwise informed).

Parents

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 Head of School 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

As always, the school will work closely with parents/ carers 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 Head of School, who will deal with ongoing breaches of the uniform policy, 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.

Governors

The local governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- is appropriate for the 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.

6. Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head of School. Next renewal date: September 2024