

Policy	Uniform Policy
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Signatories	Headteacher Margadian Margadian Chair of Governors

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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/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 <u>guidance</u> 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

- > 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/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/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- > Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- > Making uniform available to families on low-income and those in receipt of Pupil Premium
- > Consulting with parents/carers 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

Wheatfields Primary School Uniform	
Navy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan	
Grey, black, navy, trousers, skirt or pinafore dress (knee length)	
White shirt, white or navy polo shirt or white blouse	
Grey, navy, black, white socks or tights	
Black, sturdy shoes	

Grey, black or navy shorts - knee length (SUMMER) Gingham blue dress (SUMMER)

PE Kit:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts
- Black or navy jogging bottoms (outdoor)
- Navy or black fleece/sweatshirt(outdoor)
- Suitable trainers and socks

Important Information for uniform:

- All items MUST be named including underwear (you would be surprised what we find in our lost property!);
- Shorts refers to longer, close to the knee type, NOT hotpants;
- Stud earrings are acceptable, but no other jewellery should be worn;
- If watches are worn, these are to be simple analogue or digital watches NOT smart watches, and need to be removed for PE lessons;
- No child should be wearing makeup or nail polish at school;

• If your child is getting their ears pierced this summer, please remember that for health and safety reasons, children should be able to remove earrings <u>themelves</u> prior to their PE lesson. We will only allow a child to put medical tape over earrings under exceptional circumstances.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- > We have a number of uniform items with our Wheatfields logo available from Chromasport,
- > Plain, non-branded items are perfectly acceptable
- > You can find polo shirts, and navy / grey standard uniform items online, or from the majority of supremarkets such as Morrisons, Tesco and Asda.
- > We have nearly new and used uniform sales regularly throughout the school year, many items having never been worn with tags stil attached.
- > All pupil premium children are entitled to a uniform allowance per year.
- If you feel you need support with the cost of uniform, please do drop us an email or speak with someone at the school office.

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 via an email c/o <u>office@wheatfields.cambs.sch.uk</u> 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 discussion with a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

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 4 years by the Wheatfields Senior Leadership team. 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





