

Whitgreave Primary School

Uniform Policy



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

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, disability, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment. To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Aim for our Uniform Policy to be as inclusive as possible, giving pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- 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
- 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 contact school with questions about the policy who can then respond to any requests

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
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 years/classes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities

- 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

Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform

- Black/grey trousers (no jeans)
- Black/grey skirt or pinafore
- Optional blue or red gingham summer dress
- Navy blue Whitgreave sweatshirt/cardigan, with the school logo
- Red polo shirt
- Black shoes (no trainers)
- Black, grey or white socks
- Black, grey or white tights

Our school's PE uniform

- School Team coloured t-shirt (blue/yellow/red or green)
- Navy blue shorts
- Black pumps and/or trainers
- Navy blue tracksuit for outdoor PE, in colder weather
- Wellies (for Forest Schools)

Hair, jewellery and accessories

- If your child has pierced ears, we respectfully request that they wear stud earrings only.
- Your child's health and safety is of paramount importance to us, therefore, if your child does have pierced ears, earrings will need to be removed on the days they have P.E.
- No other piercings are allowed within school for pupils, due to health and safety.

Other items

- Children need a coat for school, school bag, wellies for Forest Schools within the Early Years and in the summer need a sunhat - all to be provided from home and named.

Where to purchase it

Kids Corner

11 Showell Circus

Low Hill

Wolverhampton

WV10 9BA

Telephone 01902 863222

In addition, general school uniform items, such as skirts, trousers, shirts etc, can also be purchased at local Supermarkets.

School also operates a 'Uniform Swap Shop', whereby uniform can be provided free of charge to parents/carers. For further information, please contact the School Office.

If you have any difficulties with the cost of purchasing of school uniform, please contact our Pastoral Team – Mrs Cox or Mrs Dingley at your earliest convenience.

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 (if required)

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 are also expected to contact 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

The school will work closely with parents 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 not adhering to the Uniform Policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Head Teacher 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 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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

Religion or beliefs

Some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. Pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief, but not necessarily at all times, places or in a particular manner.

At Whitgreave, we are sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and act reasonably in accommodating these needs, without compromising important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. It should be possible for most religious requirements to be met within our school Uniform Policy and our Governing Board are willing to act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating these.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives Statement
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

It has also been produced in line with the DfE guidance:

- Cost of school uniforms (Nov 2021)
- School uniforms (Nov 2021)

Mrs Redfern

Head Teacher