St Clements C of E Primary School



School Uniform Policy

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| **Approved by:** | Mrs J Parker- Head teacher | **Date:** June 2022 |
| **Next review due by:** | June 2023 | |

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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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, 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 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 get in touch with the Head Teacher or the Family Support Team, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

# 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

In May 2022, the family support team sent out a survey to parent/carers, to gain opinion around uniform and its affordability. We had 30 responses and the information was analysed to form this policy.

Parent/Carers said:

1. Online ordering was a good way to order at parent/carers own convenience but delivery could be a problem as it didn’t often arrive on time and there was also a charge for delivery if delivered to the home address.
2. Affordability- The majority of parent/carers said that the cost of items with logos were in line with schools in the local area but that items with a logo were expense and so only jumpers/cardigans would be purchased.
3. Style – All of the parent/carers said they liked the colour and style of the uniform.
4. Used/recycled -All of the parent/carers who responded to the survey said they would be willing to purchase recycled, clean, in good condition uniform items, from school. All of the respondents said they would be more than willing to donate their child’s old but in good condition uniform, back to school, for school to re-sell at a reduced cost to parent/carers.

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms) 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 and that these items are not made compulsory.
* Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, 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 signaling 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
* 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

4.1 Our school’s uniform

EYFS, Y1 – Y4 are asked to wear:

A red jumper, cardigan or fleece (school logo optional)

A white polo shirt

Grey skirt, pinafore or trousers

In the Summer months, children can wear a gingham dress or grey shorts.

Black shoes or trainers (no slip-on, open toe sandals or flip flops, due to safety reasons)

Y5 and Y6 are asked to wear: All of the above but with a royal blue jumper, cardigan or fleece (school logo is optional)

PE:

All children are asked to wear:

a red t-shirt

pair of blue shorts or blue jog trousers for outdoor wear

pumps or trainers.

The PE kit does not have a school logo and can be purchased from any local supermarket. School will also accept any shorts and t-shirt, if this is more affordable for the parent/carers.

Swimming Y4 children will take part in swimming lessons at Wright Robinson Sports College and are expected to wear a swimming costume or shorts/trunks (no Bermuda shorts allowed). Anyone with long hair is expected to wear a swimming hat.

Due to health and safety, it is expected that children do not wear jewellery for school, with the exception of a small ear stud and small wrist watch or jewellery that is a religious symbol. These items will need to be removed for PE and swimming lessons.

Coats, bags and shoes are expected to be comfortable and fit for purpose, throughout the seasons.

4.2 Where to purchase it

All uniform without the school logo, can be purchased from all major supermarkets or high street stores. Logoed items can be purchased from ‘Goodies’, which is an online store and will be delivered to the home address for a small fee, OR delivered free to school for parent/carers to collect.

# Throughout the school year, the family support team will accept donations of any unwanted, good condition, school uniform items from parent/carers. These will be washed, ironed and re-sold at a reduced price, at the end of each academic year and throughout the school year- stock is subject to donations.

# 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 head teacher 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 are also expected to contact the head teacher 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.

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 phase leaders if the situation doesn’t improve.

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

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 head teacher will approve this policy, informing the governing body of its content and any changes, 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

The head teacher and school business manager, 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.

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# 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed each year by the family support team. At every review, it will be approved by the head teacher.

# 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

* Behaviour policy
* Equality information and objectives statement
* Anti-bullying policy
* Complaints policy
* Parental Involvement policy