

# Cupernham Infant School

*"Together We Care, We Learn and We Achieve"*



## Uniform Policy

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## Contents

1. Aims .....	2
2. Our school’s legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.....	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform.....	3
4. Expectations for school uniform.....	3
5. Expectations for our school community.....	5
6. Monitoring arrangements .....	7
7. Links to other policies.....	7

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### 1. Aims and Objectives

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 policy on school uniform is based on our belief that wearing school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- Creates 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.

### 2. 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 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 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 our Senior Leadership Team 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 [guidance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We believe parents should not have to think about the cost of a school uniform when choosing which school(s) to apply for. Therefore, schools need to ensure that their uniform is affordable.

In considering cost, we think about the total cost of our school uniform, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school.

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
- 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
- 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
- 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 uniform

Our School uniform colours are royal blue, white and grey, to be worn both in school and when representing the school at off-site school venues (unless otherwise advised). Wearing school uniform helps develop pride in our school community and gives the children a feeling of belonging. It also saves you time in the morning!

**Generic** royal blue sweatshirts, cardigans and fleeces can be worn with grey trousers, skirts, shorts or light blue gingham dresses.

Uniform with our school logo is available from Skoolkit (details further down). **Uniform items can also be generic.**

Winter	Summer
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey trousers, dress or skirt</li> <li>• White shirt or polo shirt</li> <li>• Royal Blue sweatshirt or cardigan</li> <li>• Grey or white socks or grey, blue or white tights</li> <li>• Black shoes</li> <li>• Wellies to be kept in school</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey shorts, trousers, skirt or dress</li> <li>• Blue &amp; white striped or gingham dress.</li> <li>• White shirt or polo shirt</li> <li>• Royal Blue sweatshirt or cardigan</li> <li>• Grey or white socks or grey, blue or white tights</li> <li>• Black shoes</li> </ul>

### Footwear

Footwear should be safe for all daily school activities so open-toed sandals/clogs and backless shoes are not appropriate. We ask your child to have a pair of wellies kept in school to take advantage of our extensive grounds and outdoor learning activities! Trainers should not be worn.

### PE Kit

For PE: generic dark shorts, white t-shirt, dark jogging bottoms, a sweatshirt, short socks and plimsolls/trainers are needed for both indoor and outdoor PE (plimsolls not essential) and should be kept in a named drawstring bag in school. Please tie long hair back on known PE days.

In addition, for outside PE please provide:

- Sweatshirt or jumper
- Tracksuit trousers or joggers.

For safety reasons, there should not be any accessories on the clothing provided for PE

### Religions and 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. If our school has good reason for restricting an individual’s freedoms, for example, the promotion of cohesion and good order in the school, or genuine health and safety or security considerations, the restriction of an individual’s rights to manifest their religion or belief may be justified.

The school will be 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 a school uniform policy and the governing board will act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating these.

## Engagement with parents/carers

The school will engage with parents and pupils when developing their uniform policy to ensure that it is suitable for their school community, recognising that the school community may change over time. 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 dealt with in accordance with the school's complaints policy. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome

## Other things to think about

For safety reasons, children are asked not to wear any jewellery to school other than watches and religious jewellery. If earring must be worn, small studs are the only ones allowed. Children will be asked to remove dangling earring or hoops. For safety reasons, earrings must be removed for PE lessons or, if not possible, taped over by a parent that morning. Long hair must be tied back during PE lessons, regardless of gender. Nail varnish or fake nails are not permitted in school.

- Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name to avoid them being lost.
- During hot weather, children must bring their bottle of water and a sun hat into school, every day.
- Please remember to apply sunscreen in the morning before school.

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

We recommend that parents purchase all school uniform from a high street store or on-line as this is where they will be able to purchase them at the most reasonable price.

If you wish to purchase a branded sweatshirt, polo shirt and cardigan, you can do this via

**Skoolkit** - <https://www.skoolkit.co.uk/#>

They have shops in Eastleigh and Totton

For order enquiries please contact our webmail department  
By phone - 02380 651278

For branch details including phone numbers and opening hours  
Please [Find a Branch](#)

## Pre-loved Uniform

Pre-loved uniform items can be purchased via our PTA group FOCUS. Please order on their order page at: [FOCUS Pre-Loved Uniform](#)

## 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)

## 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 Senior Leadership Team 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.

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 two years by the Headteacher. 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