

Whitstable & Seasalter Endowed Church of England (Aided) Junior School



Uniform Policy

This policy reflects our school's vision

LET YOUR LIGHT *Shine*
Matthew 5:14-16

Love ★ Joy ★ Goodness ★ Resilience ★ Trust

Reviewed: July 2022

Date of Next Review: July 2024

Reviewer: Darlene Bushell

Signed: 

Headteacher: Ellen Taylor

Signed: 

This policy was ratified by the Governing Body on 27/09/2022

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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 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 Ellen Taylor, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- 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

School sweatshirt or school cardigan with school logo Navy or black trousers Navy or black skirt or pinafore dress

School polo shirt (navy) with school logo

Black shoes (low heels) or sensible black/blue toe covered sandals Boots may be worn in cold weather to and from school but children must change into black shoes when in school

Black/Navy/White socks, black or navy tights

Optional Items*:

*Navy Fleece with school logo (outdoor wear only)

*In Summer a blue check or striped dress

*In Summer black or grey school shorts

PE and Games Kit PE Kit:

Navy shorts, white T-shirt (school logo optional) and plimsolls

Games Kit – Navy jogging bottom, white T-shirt (school logo optional) and trainers

*Navy 'hoodie' with school logo or Navy hoodie

Our school uniform can be ordered online from Price & Buckland at www.pbuniform-online.co.uk/whitstable endowed. The school office keep a limited stock of school uniform which is available to purchase.

Any school bag may be brought to school

Any coat colour is acceptable

Jewellery should not be worn to school. However, we will allow small stud earrings and a wrist watch. If small studs are worn to school these must be removed for safety reasons for all physical activities including swimming. Hair accessories should be small and practical.

Adaptation can of course be made in line with our duties under the Equality Act 2010.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Parents and carers can obtain the uniform, from Price and Buckland and the school office holds some items. Please see website for further details: [School Uniform | Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CofE Junior School \(whitstable-endowed.kent.sch.uk\)](http://School Uniform | Whitstable and Seasalter Endowed CofE Junior School (whitstable-endowed.kent.sch.uk))

Second-hand uniform is available from school and the PTFA hold regular sales.

Whitstable Community Wardrobe offers free good quality pre-loved uniform at distribution sessions advertised locally.

Our FLO is able to help with obtaining uniform.

Governor hardship fund can be accessed by the Headteacher to support families as appropriate.

Parents and Carers whose child is in receipt of Pupil Premium may purchase school uniform at half price.

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 or parents/carers are also expected to contact Ellen Taylor 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 Ellen Taylor 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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Ellen Taylor.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will always take a mindful, considerate and compassionate approach to resolving the situation.

