



'Believe. Achieve. Be Proud.'

Lyngford Park Primary & Nursery School

School Uniform Policy

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Statement of intent

Every child is unique and valued. We aim to provide an environment in which all pupils feel safe and can flourish. We will respond to individuals in ways which consider their varied life experiences and particular needs. We are committed to providing an education with aspirational outcomes, which enables all pupils to make progress and become confident individuals.

A consistent uniform policy is vital to promote our ethos and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

For the purposes of this policy, "**uniform**" includes the following elements of pupils' appearance:

- Clothing, including the school uniform itself, variations of the school uniform such as PE kits, and other clothing worn at school, e.g. non-uniform.
- Hairstyles and headwear, jewellery and cosmetics such as makeup and nail polish.

This policy lays out the measures taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, is affordable, and provides the best value for money for both the school and pupils' families. Pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable and dressed in uniform.

1. Legal framework

Due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality and Diversity Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the Headteacher and school community, a practical and smart uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring uniform is accessible, inclusive, affordable and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's ['Cost of school uniforms'](#) guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the uniform rules on a day-to-day basis.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Where appropriate to their role, disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring pupils understand why having a consistent and practical uniform is important.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct, clean and presentable uniform, of the correct size as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Headteacher if their child requires an exemption to the uniform rules for a period, with a reason why.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Always wearing the correct uniform, unless the Headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school.

3. Cost principles

We ensure its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher ensures uniform requirements do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

We assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, we will consider the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform.
- LAC and PLAC.

We will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

We will keep variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g. year group- specific items or house colours, to a minimum to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

We will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level (jumper / cardigan only) - reasonable for all members of the school. Where the school requires an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this. This may include:

- Making donated second-hand uniform available for purchase at a lower price.

We will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

We will not make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

4. Equality principles

School takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any protected characteristic very seriously. We aim to ensure our uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so all pupils can access a uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination based on protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

School will ensure parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that, where appropriate and with pupils' consent, views and advice are sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender or non-binary, are of a religious or cultural background that has specific dress requirements, or who have SEND and/or sensory needs.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher, and always in accordance with the Complaints Policy.

Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined below.

Gender

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain gender, we will ensure the cost of uniform is as equal in price as possible across items for all genders.

Religion and belief

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain religion, belief or culture, the school will ensure flexibility to allow pupils to present themselves in a way that adheres to their requirements as far as possible, within the school's uniform policy.

School will endeavour to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, the needs and rights of individual pupils will be weighed against any health and safety concerns appropriate to the circumstances, e.g. if safety headgear needs to be worn.

Race

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain race, the school will ensure its uniform policy does not constitute unlawful indirect discrimination through blanket rules.

SEND and medical conditions

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will ensure its uniform policy considers the needs of these pupils. This includes:

- Ensuring uniform uses soft, stretchy fabrics and avoids intricate buttons or hard seams, and allowing variations to the standard uniform for pupils whose medical conditions may impact how they dress, e.g. pupils with casts who require loose-fitting clothing or pupils with hair loss-related conditions who wish to wear head coverings.

Where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

5. Complaints and challenges

School will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the Complaints Policy and Procedure. School will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Policy and Procedure and request they follow the procedures. When a complaint is received, school will work with the complainant to arrive at an agreed outcome.

6. School uniform supplier

The current school uniform supplier is:

- South West School wear, 144B East Reach, Taunton, TA1 3HT. Tel: 01823 278080

The school uniform supplier will accept school uniform assistance vouchers.

7. Uniform assistance

For parents to claim school uniform assistance, their children should be eligible for FSM. Eligibility will be determined by checking original documents from the relevant authority, detailing receipt of the benefit and the address of the pupil.

Pre-loved uniform is available for parents to access. Parents will be invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

8. Non-compliance

Parents will be supported to rectify pupils' breaches of school uniform

9. School uniform

Our uniform is as follows:

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire
Red sweatshirt or cardigan	Required	Logo	Branded sweatshirt and cardigan available from school supplier or second-hand from school office.
White polo shirt	Required	No logo	Available from supplier, second-hand from school office, and from regular retailers
Grey or black trousers or knee-length grey skirt, shorts or pinafore dress	Required	No branding No leggings or jeggings	Available from supplier, second-hand from school office, and from regular retailers
Black or white socks or tights	Required	No patterns	Available from regular retailers

Red gingham dresses	Optional	No logo	Available from regular retailers
Plain black shoes or plain black trainers.	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers
Plain white t-shirt	Required	No branding	Available from supplier or from regular retailers
Plain navy or black shorts	Required	No branding	Available from supplier or regular retailers
Cushioned trainers (No daps)	Required	Black plain	Available from regular retailers
Navy or black tracksuits / leggings	Optional	Plain	Available from regular retailers
School book bag	Optional		Available from supplier

We do not consider high heels suitable school shoes.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings in their PE kit when needed.

Jewellery

The school rules on jewellery are as follows:

- One pair of stud earrings may be worn – no other piercings are permitted.
- No other jewellery is allowed e.g. necklaces, bracelets.
- A sensible wristwatch or fitness tracker may be worn.

Pupils will be advised jewellery is their responsibility. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

Bags

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

We discourage pupils from bringing valuable bags to school. We are liable for lost or damage bags.

Hairstyles and headwear

We reserve the right to make a judgement on whether a pupil's hairstyle, hair colour or headwear is inappropriate for the school environment; however, we will ensure any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be considered.

Pupils with long hair must ensure this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair (touching the shoulders) must be always tied up.

The following hairstyles, hair colours and headwear are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly coloured dyed hair
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours
- Excessive hair accessories
- Headwear featuring inappropriate words or images
- Tramlines
- Judgements on appropriateness are to be made.

Makeup and cosmetics

Makeup, temporary tattoos, nail varnish, false nails or extensions are not permitted

10. Adverse weather

All pupils will be advised to wear weather-appropriate clothing. When hot:

- Tops – but still covers the shoulder area.
- Sunglasses with UV protection when outside.

Pupils will be advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves. Staff will make informed decisions based on hot weather and break times spent outside.

When cold: Scarfs, gloves, coats, hats for outside are encouraged.

11. Labelling and lost property

Parents will be advised to ensure all pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name and year group.

Any lost clothing will be taken to the Lost Property cupboard. All lost property will be retained for one term and will be disposed of if it is not collected within this time.