

School Uniform policy

Date approved: July 2022 Date for review: July 2025

Signature...... (Chair of Governors)

Print name......Date:.....

<u>1. Aims</u>

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards our school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with our school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.
- has due regard to the sensory needs of some of our pupils.

Our policy also:

- sets out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers;
- explains how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010;
- clarifies our expectations for school uniform.

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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/carers to get in touch with Tracey Smith, Headteacher, 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 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;
- 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 groups;
- 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's uniform

Details of our current school uniform can be found in the School Prospectus.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our branded school uniform can be purchased from the following;

S & H Sports

1 Church Street Bromsgrove B61 8DD Tel: 01527 874885 Email: info@sandhschoolwearandsports.co.uk

School Days

15 Church Street

Bromsgrove

B61 8DD

Tel: 01527 757439

Internet company:

myclothing.com

The PTA/school will also operate second hand uniform sales.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

We would like our pupils 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 can contact Tracey Smith, Headteacher, if they would like to discuss an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

We would like our parents and carers 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 can contact Tracey Smith, Headteacher, if they would like to discuss 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 encourage pupils to wear the correct school uniform however will have due regard to pupils' sensory needs.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with our 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 and consistently across the school
- takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.