

School uniform policy

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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 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 request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- 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 to get in touch with Mr Reeves, 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 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:

- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics, it is optional to have the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling 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

All children attending Fairmeadows Foundation Primary School are expected to follow the school dress code established by the Governors. Uniform is a key component of our school, it establishes an identity, a sense of belonging and a pride in not only their appearance but in their school. We believe uniform allows pupils to forget their socio-economic status and begin each day on a level playing field where they can focus on learning, building relationships and growing into the best version of themselves.

School Uniform

Red school jumper/cardigan
Black trousers/skirt/pinafore
White polo shirt/shirt or blouse
Black shoes (**not trainers** or boots)
Black socks
Black or Red tights
Red and white summer dress

(School uniform does not have to have school logos)

Year 6 should wear a tie that matches their Team Colour – (this is provided by school)

PE Kit

Team colour T-shirt with Logo
Plain black shorts
Plain Black Jogging bottoms
Trainers
Black sweatshirt with or without logo (**No Hoods**)
Plain black or white socks
(PE items should have the school logo where possible as they will be worn to represent the school at events) **Only purchase a sweatshirt when your child has outgrown their current hoody.**

Forest School Kit

Green Sweatshirt (Optional).
You do not have to purchase this item, the black sweatshirt from PE kit is acceptable.)

Black jogging bottoms
Trainers/Wellington Boots
Waterproof lightweight jacket
Plain long sleeved T-shirt for summer.

(No shorts or short sleeve items are permitted in Forest School)

Children should wear the appropriate clothing for their day. That means **PE kit on PE days**, **Forest School kit on Forest School days** and **school uniform on all other days**. This reduces lost time spent changing, minimises lost clothing and maximises space in our already crowded cloakrooms. We also hope this will save families money as they must buy fewer items and are less likely to have to replace lost items.

There is also no need for large rucksacks or PE bags, meaning one less expense.

All groups will have 2 PE sessions per week and one Forest School session per week during a specified term. This means one PE kit should be sufficient to cover 2 days of school, and can also be worn for Forest School. The Forest School jumper is **OPTIONAL** and then uniform is only required for 3 days during the rest of the week. Children who join a sports club will be asked to wear PE kit on the day that they participate in the club. This will again enable them to maximise their active time and avoid needing to bring expensive additional items into school to change into. **Forest school will not run over the Winter starting 31st Oct-1st March.**

Additional kit will only be requested by teachers in exceptional circumstances, such as a school photo day where we would like pupils in uniform but then they may need to change following their photo. We will always give advanced notice of this.



Hair Accessories

Headbands, bobbles and slides should be in school colours (red or black). They should be plain and non- decorative, i.e. without large bows, flowers etc. Long hair should be tied up for all children regardless; this helps tremendously with the battle against head lice.

Hairstyles

Extreme hairstyles, shaved patterns and colours are inappropriate for school. Long hair below the shirt line must be tied up.

Jewellery

One pair of plain stud earrings only. No rings or bracelets other than for religious or medical reasons.

Make Up

Children are not permitted to wear make-up, including nail varnish, false nails/eyelashes etc.

Equipment

- ☐ Book bags with the school logo on are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers, to carry reading material to and from school. These are compulsory, please do not send your child into school with a rucksack or any other bag unless requested for specific purposes by the teacher.
- ☐ All pupils have their own stationary labelled with their name and provided for them throughout the school year.
- ☐ Please provide a named water bottle for your child, this should come home with them each day to be washed and refilled.

Please mark all clothes and items with your child's name. This is a regret that many parents express to us come term time. A few seconds spent writing a name on a label can save many £££.

4.2 Where to purchase it

WB Global – Walton on Trent 01283 711538

<https://www.wbglobaltrading.co.uk>

Pupil Schoolwear – Swadlincote 01283 224512

<https://pupilsschoolwear.co.uk/find-your-school/primary-infant-nursery-schools-a-m/fairmeadows-foundation-primary-school>

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 Mr Reeves 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 Mr Reeves 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 Mr Reeves and the governing board.

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 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 annually. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Positive Reinforcement policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy