Bishopton Primary School



School Uniform Policy

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BISHOPTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

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STATEMENT OF INTENT

Bishopton Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and pride within our community. Our Uniform Policy is designed to promote equality, minimise distractions during learning, and enhance the school environment.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that all students are dressed uniformly to create a cohesive school identity.
2. To promote high standards of appearance among students.
3. To support the ethos of the school, where students feel valued and respected.

UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS

General Guidelines:

- All students must wear the prescribed uniform every school day unless specified on designated non-uniform days.
- Parents are responsible for ensuring that their child is in full uniform and maintaining it to a good standard.

LEGAL FRAMEWORK

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018 • [New] Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code' • [Updated] DfE (2024) 'School uniforms: guidance for schools'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the head of school and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue 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 that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.
- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the CEO.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.
- Staff members are responsible for:
- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the head of school if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the head of school has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

COST PRINCIPLES

The school is committed to ensuring that 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 head of school will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account 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 due to costs.
- LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that 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.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

EQUALITY PRINCIPLES

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any pupil very seriously. In line with the above, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

The school will ensure that 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.
- 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 governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

GENDER

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

- Adhering to the procedures laid out in the 'Cost principles' section of this policy.
- Not directly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional uniform, e.g. by requiring female pupils to buy both trousers and skirts.
- Not indirectly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional uniform, e.g. by offering football in PE to only male pupils and requiring they buy football boots to participate.
- Not holding pupils of different genders to different uniform standards, e.g. by banning certain hairstyles for only one gender.
- The school will implement a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils will not be required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

RELIGION AND BELIEF

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

The 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 that its uniform policy does not constitute unlawful indirect discrimination through blanket rules. This includes:

- Not banning hairstyles related to a pupil's ethnic origin, e.g. natural Afro hairstyles.
- Not banning hairstyles worn because of cultural, family and social customs, e.g. cornrows.
- Not banning head coverings related to a pupil's culture or ethnic origin, e.g. African heritage head wraps.

The school will follow the good practice guidance provided by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'.

SEND AND MEDICAL CONDITIONS

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

- Ensuring the school uniform uses soft, stretchy fabrics and avoids intricate buttons or hard seams.
- 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.

COMPLAINTS AND CHALLENGES

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy. To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined. When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

NON-COMPLIANCE

Staff members are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

SCHOOL UNIFORM (School colours) Our school colours are as follows:

- RED

WHAT SHOULD CHILDREN WEAR IN SCHOOL?

We believe that children should wear uniform in school. We would like children to have pride in being a part of Bishopton and in maintaining a well-dressed and smart appearance. The uniform has been designed so that much of it is easily obtainable to buy directly from our own dedicated online school shop. Our smart school uniform can be purchased via the following website:

www.schoolshopsales.com/bishoptonprimarystratford

If your child is unable to wear an item of the uniform temporarily, please let us know by letter. We have never yet sent a child home for being improperly dressed, but we reserve the right to do so.

It is ESSENTIAL that every item of your child's clothing is clearly labelled with either permanent ink or name strips.



Gender specific uniform requirements are listed below:

GIRLS:

- Black or grey 'school type' trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore (no jeans)
- White polo shirt
- Bishopton sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black shoes (flat sole/low heels) – No boots
- Black/White socks/Grey tights
- Red check dresses (Optional-Summer term only)
- Baseball cap (Summer weather and school trips)
- Plain hair band (if required)

PE (kit to be worn all day for PE lessons or after school clubs)

School kits available through our website

- Black shorts
- Black or white socks
- Plain T-Shirt (not football shirt – unless football is being taught)
- Trainers for outside PE
- Black pumps / appropriate footwear for indoor PE
- Appropriate clothing for cold weather



Swimming

- Swimming costume
- Towel
- Swimming hats for long hair

BOYS:

- Black or grey 'school type' trousers or shorts (no jeans)
- White polo shirt
- Bishopton sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black shoes (flat sole/low heels) - No boots
- Black/White socks
- Baseball cap (Summer weather and school trips)

PE (kit to be worn all day for PE lessons or after school clubs)

- Black shorts
- Black or white socks
- Plain T-Shirt (not football shirt – unless football is being taught)
- Trainers for outside PE
- Black pumps / appropriate footwear for indoor PE
- Appropriate clothing for cold weather

Swimming

- Swim trunks
- Towel
- Swimming hats for long hair

ALL Children are encouraged to use a school book bag.

A small, discreet studded earring is allowed to be worn if desired. However, they must be removed or taped over (using either micropore surgical tape or a plaster) during PE lessons. Teachers cannot be

responsible for either removing or taping over earrings in this situation. Parents should note that earrings are worn at children's and parents own risk and school cannot be held responsible for accidents which occur involving them. Other items of jewellery (eg, necklaces, bracelets, bangles) should not be worn in school.

HAIRSTYLES

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE. The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured, dyed hair.
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours.
- Excessive hair accessories.

ADVERSE WEATHER

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Loose-fitting and lightweight shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
- Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
- Tops that cover the shoulder area.
- Sunglasses with UV protection when outside, where possible.

Pupils are advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.
- Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

LABELLING

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is be taken to the lost property box in the school office. All lost property is retained for six weeks and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy is reviewed annually by the headteacher.