

School Uniform Policy



St Stephen's C.E Primary School

Approved by: FGB

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Next review due by: July 2025

School Uniform Policy

This policy provides the framework through which we will promote the well-being, equity and equality of all our children. It is based on the aims and values of the school which are embedded in the strong Christian ethos of St. Stephen's.

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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:

- › Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- › Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- › Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- › To give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- › Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the 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 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. We only have tops with a logo on.
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- › 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

- › A sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan with a logo on.
- › Any plain grey trousers or skirt or pinafore or shorts
- › Any white or red polo shirt (Logo ones are also available)
- › Red checked summer dresses
- › Plain black shoes or plain black or white trainers

Expectations for PE and swimming kit

- › Plain grey tracksuit bottoms, white or red plain T shirt (Logo ones are also available)
- › Plain red shorts and white or red polo shirt
- › Any swim wear that meets the expectations set out by the swimming provider.

- › Book bags with school logo on are available from the school office

4.2 Where to purchase it

- › Parents and carers can obtain the uniform online from the MAPAC company.
- › Details of how to access MAPAC are included in the induction pack for parents or form the school office.

- › Second – hand uniform can be obtained from the 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)

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 the Headteacher 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.

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 school 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 reviewing contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy