

Uniform Policy

Great Ponton CE Primary School



Approved by:

Date: 21st November 2023

Last reviewed on:

November 2023

Next review due by:

November 2026

UNIFORM POLICY

1. Aims

1.1. Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in pupil's appearance and their school;
- Helps to create a sense of school family and belonging;
- Identifies the children with the school;
- Supports our commitment to inclusion; and
- Is practical and smart.

1.2. 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; and
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform.

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

2.1. 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.

2.2. 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 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; and
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher-Keith Leader 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

3.1. At Great Ponton CE Primary School, we have 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.

3.2. We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (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.

3.3. To keep costs to a minimum we will endeavor to ensure our school uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides good value for money for parents/carers

3.4. We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary;
- 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 groups/class/House groups;
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities/competitions;
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire secondhand uniform items;
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes; and
- 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:

- Green sweatshirt (round neck) or cardigan (does not have to have the logo)
- Navy blue polo shirt (does not have to have the logo)
- Plain mid-grey, straight-legged, tailored trousers with no external pockets i.e. not 'Cargo style' with grey/black socks
- Mid-grey skirt or Pinafore dress with medium grey tights or grey socks
- **Optional** Summer term only - Plain mid-grey, straight-legged, tailored shorts with no external pockets i.e. not 'Cargo style' with grey/black socks, green & white checked dress with white or grey socks.

4.2. P.E. and Games Kit:

- Green Tee Shirt (does not have to have the logo)
- Navy blue or black shorts or skirt
- Pair of plimsolls or trainers
- P.E. bag
- One-piece swimming costume (No bikinis), swimming trunks or tight shorts (not baggy shorts) towel, swim hat and if required swimming goggles. No jewellery including earrings can be worn in the pool.

4.3. Outdoor PE Kit:

- Pair of suitable trainers (preferably black or white)
- Green PE Tee shirt
- Navy PE hooded top and plain navy tracksuit bottoms

4.4. Footwear

The children require a pair of sensible black shoes which can be worn to and from school and throughout the school day, both inside the building and while children are at play. Children will also require a pair of trainers (preferably black or white) for PE lessons outside.

4.5. Jewellery

Only stud earrings are permitted, and children will be requested to remove them if they are taking part in PE. Any other forms of earrings and jewellery are not permitted and children will be asked to remove. Pupils are responsible for the security of their own possessions (including watches and money). Children may wear watches but this does not include smart watches as they have a number of features which are distracting or not appropriate for school.

4.6. Hair

All shoulder length or longer hair should be tied back behind the head. Short hair should be smartly trimmed (i.e. no 'extreme hairstyles,' shaved patterns, etc.). The definition of what constitutes an 'extreme hairstyle' is at the discretion of the headteacher.

4.7. Optional items with school logo:

- Storm Jacket
- Legionnaires Cap
- Baseball cap
- Knitted hat (winter)
- Book bag

4.8. Where to purchase Uniform

As a school, we fully understand the financial pressures in the world today and with this in mind, we do not expect children to wear branded uniform. We do expect the children to wear the school colours but you can purchase uniform from local supermarkets at a reduced rate compared to the uniform companies listed below:

If you would like your child to wear branded uniform this can be ordered from the following websites and delivered to your preferred address:

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/GreatPontonCEVAPrimarySchoolNG335DT>

or

<https://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/school/GR8443PD/>

4.9. Second Hand Uniform

We also offer a secondhand uniform shop so if you need uniform, don't forget to have a look on our school uniform site:

<https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/314>

4.10. We encourage all parents/carers to ensure all items of clothing and equipment are permanently marked with your child's name.

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; and
- 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 the Headteacher – Mr Keith Leader 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 the Headteacher Mr Keith Leader 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; and
- 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 the Headteacher Mr Keith Leader.

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; and
- 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. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

7. Uniform Policy Review

This policy is reviewed by the Head teacher, staff and Governors in accordance with Great Ponton School's Policy and Review Cycle for approval by the Full Governing Body, every 3 years.