Sunningwell CE Primary School Uniform Policy

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

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/carers to get in touch with Mrs. Leech, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will, therefore, make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost **including 'pre-loved' items** available from the PTA
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 or fewer

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary and limiting these where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- 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 including (but not limited to) sport (except where safety may be a factor), music and drama

- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- 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 uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

Expectations for school uniform

We are very proud of our school, and we expect children to have high standards of personal appearance in and around school. This helps us to maintain good attitudes to learning and encourages pride in our school. We also expect these standards to be maintained during PE lessons and when children represent the school at events offsite.

We would prefer that school sweatshirts, jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts and PE t-shirts have the school logo. Those uniform items which do not require a school logo can be purchased from any supermarket, department store or sports shop. All children will need a school, book bag.

Uniform

- Navy sweater, cardigan, sweatshirt or fleece (no hoodies)
- White or Blue shirt, polo shirt or blouse
- Navy or grey shorts or trousers (not jean style)
- Navy or grey pinafore dress or skirt
- Blue and white stripe or check dress (summer)
- Navy, white or grey tights or socks
- Black school shoes (no sandals/trainers or canvas shoes)
- In winter black boots may be worn but these must be plain without embellishments.

PE Kit should be worn on the days your child's class has PE and should be

- Sky Blue Polo Shirt/T-Shirt
- Navy Shorts/Joggers/skirts

- Black or Navy trainers (preferably with no logos) for outdoor use
- PE Bag
- Class 3 (Year 3 and 4) will require a swimming suit, a swimming cap and a towel. Goggles may be worn in the pool with written permission from parents/carers prior to the start of sessions
- School sports kit is available on loan for a range of competitions and fixtures. This should be washed and returned the school as soon after the event as possible

All uniform should be plain and bear no other emblems other than the school logo. We kindly ask all clothing, and shoes are marked or labelled with your child's name.

The following items are available with the school logo, which can be purchased from **MySchoolWear:**

- Navy sweatshirt, cardigan, sweatshirt, fleece
- Reversible fleece jacket
- White or blue polo shirt
- Light blue PE T-shirt
- PE Bags
- School Book Bags

Long hair should be always tied up and only stud earrings are allowed, which must be covered or removed in PE. No other jewellery should be worn

Expectations for our school community

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 (when kit maybe available on loan from the school)

Pupils are also expected to contact the school office or the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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/carers are also expected to contact the school office 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/carers 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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory guidance.

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/carers 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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every four years or as made necessary by the DfE legislation. At every review, it will be approved by the Governing Body

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Agreed and ratified by Governors 22/09/2026