

Hugglescote Community Primary School

Uniform Policy

July 2025

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- > Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost, offers the best value for money for parents and carers and is appropriate for school activity.
- > Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- > Clarify our expectations for school uniform

We believe that uniform:

- Promotes a sense of belonging and community;
- Promotes a sense of pride in school;
- Allows children to feel equal;
- It is practical and smart;
- It is regarded as suitable wear for the school and good value for money by most parents;
- It is designed with health and safety in mind.

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

The <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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:

- ➤ 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- ➤ Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- > Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- ➤ Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mr. Driver or Miss Walker 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
- > Promotes and enables children to be active

We will do this by:

- > Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- > Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- > Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items,
- 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
- > Considering the best clothing options to allow children to be active.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Grey or black skirt, pinafore, dress, trousers or shorts

Light blue shirt or polo shirt (with or without school logo)

Royal blue cardigan, jumper or sweatshirt (with or without school logo)

Royal blue fleece (with/without school logo)

SUMMER

During warmer months' children may wear:

Blue and white gingham dress or jumpsuit (of knee length)

Grey or black shorts

If socks are visible, they should be white, grey, black or royal blue

Socks should not have any sporting logos or other logos visible

Tights should be black, grey, white or royal blue.

Skirts, shorts, jump suits and dresses should be an appropriate length that fall just above or below the knee. Items of clothing that are short and expose a significant amount of skin are not appropriate as uniform. Parents/carers should ensure that their child wears thick black tights or black leggings underneath the 'short' item if they are unable to replace quickly e.g. at the end of a school year when the child will not get a lot of use out of it. Children can wear unbranded cycling style black shorts underneath skirts or dresses so that their underwear will not be visible during active play.

We encourage our children to be active and want their uniform to allow all children to be comfortable during lessons and also to enable active play during breaks and lunchtimes.

FOOTWEAR

Shoes and/or trainers must be black and plain in design with flat heels that allow the children to walk and play safely and comfortably. They should provide adequate support for the feet and not be too tight or too loose.

Black ankle boots may be worn but these need to be plain with no embellishments e.g. tassels, shiny bits or big buckles that may cause injury.

Plain black trainers may be worn daily but they should be logo free and be all black in colour including black soles.

If children wear footwear with laces, they must be able to tie these themselves. If a child cannot tie shoelaces they should wear footwear with alternative fastenings that they can close and open themselves e.g. Velcro

All children need a named pair of wellington boots which will be left at school for outdoor learning and play.

PE KIT

Children can come to school on PE days wearing their PE uniform. Where children want to wear shorts like gym or cycling style shorts, then these should be worn underneath their PE leggings/ tracksuits.

PE Kit uniform consists of:

Plain black leggings or tracksuit bottoms that are not see through

Plain royal blue T -Shirt which may or may not have the school logo on

A royal blue hoody which may or may not have the school logo on

Plain black PE shorts/cycling style shorts that cover most of the thigh area

Plain white, black, grey or royal blue socks that **do not** have a sporting or other logo on.

Plain black trainers

Sporting wear with logos or 'team kits' are not permitted e.g. Leicester City Football kits.

Swimming

Swimsuit or swim shorts. Bikinis are not allowed and shorts should not be too baggy since they are hard to swim in.

Towel

Swim hat

Goggles if the permission slip has been signed

Waterproof bag

All children with hair long enough should tie it up for PE. Earrings need to be removed or taped for all PE including swimming. Parents/ carers should either remove or tape the earring before their child comes to school if their child cannot do this independently. If taping is required then parents/ carers must provide the tape.

BAGS

Children can use a book bag with the school logo on. We recommend that all children in EYFS and KS1 use these. We provide each EYFS child with a book bag when they start school.

All other bags should be suitably sized. We recommend rucksack/ backpack styles. Bags are stored on pegs and oversized bags can take up too much room and are hard for children to manage.

COATS and OUTDOOR WEAR

Coats should be brought to school for most days of the year. All children need a waterproof coat. Younger children (EYFS and KS1) may bring an all in one waterproof overall/ puddle suit. Children play outside all year round and in all but the worst weather. The children also use out grounds for outdoor learning as well so waterproof clothing is vital in keeping children warm and comfortable.

We would recommend in colder months children wearing their normal uniform as well as fleece, waterproof coat or waterproof overall/puddle suit and waterproof trousers (for KS2 children). In times of wet muddy conditions these outer layers will protect children's clothing form getting muddy and wet.

All items of clothing, water bottles, bags etc MUST BE NAMED. It is parents/carers responsibility to make sure that all their child's belongings are clearly identified by naming them. We are not responsible for the loss of any item.

HAIR

Hair should be of a natural colour that a child could be born with. Hair should not be dyed a non-natural colour and hair braiding should not include colours that can be woven into the hair.

We recommend that all hair that is long enough to be tied up is tied up for school. All hair must be tied up for PE. Small hair accessories may be worn i.e. hair clips and small bows. These should be white, blue, grey or black. If a headband is worn it should be soft and small. Any headband that sits off the head or could be dangerous are not permitted e.g. metal cat ear styles.

JEWELLERY

Children should **not** wear jewellery to school. The exceptions are:

- Small plain studs worn in the ears. Hooped or dangling earrings are not allowed for health and safety reasons.
- Small wrist watch or fitness band can be worn. A fitness tracker that counts steps only is allowed but any device which can send/receive calls or messages and take photographs are treated as mobile phones and are not permitted.
- Other items of religious significance (requests should be made to Mr Driver or Miss Walker)

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION AND GUIDANCE

- Children should not attend school wearing nail varnish. Children attending school wearing
 nail varnish will be asked to remove it that evening at home. If after conversations with either
 the child or parents/carers they still are wearing nail varnish, then they will be supported to
 use nail varnish remover to remove the polish.
- We do not believe that any child in primary school should have nail gel polish or any other nail embellishment which is bonded to the natural nail. Parents/ carers are asked to send their child to school with natural nails only.
- We recommend hats in the summer months to keep sun off faces and in winter to provide warmth. These items as well as any scarfs or gloves etc should all be unbranded i.e. logo free.
- Children should not wear any make up to school. We understand that some children may
 compete in activities that require make up meaning occasionally some may remain visible for
 a short period of time. If it appears that a child is attending school wearing make-up they will
 be asked to remove it using face wipes.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform can be purchased and ordered from:

- Sweatshirts, cardigans and other items with the school logo may be purchased from Violet Embroidery. This can be done by visiting their website: <u>Violet Embroidery</u> or via telephone: 07716910373 or via email <u>violet.ee@yahoo.com</u>
- > The PTFA run stalls during the Summer and Christmas Fairs which sell second hand uniform.
- > The school operates a uniform swap.

- ➤ The school will provide uniform either free of charge or subsidised for children whose families suffer financial hardship.
- > Other places in the community often have a selection of second-hand uniform.

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)
- > We expect the uniform worn to be smart with shirts tucked into trousers, skirts etc. and to be a good and comfortable fit (e.g. not too long/short or too baggy/tight)

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform, and that every item is:

- > Clean
- > Clearly labelled with the child's name
- > In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Mr Driver or Miss Walker 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 members of the SLT.

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 retendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three 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