



School uniform policy

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*Our vision: Learning Together with Kind Hearts
and Determined Minds*

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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:

- 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
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols (items considered jewelry are not allowed)
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch 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 where possible for example, by only asking that the jumper, worn over a shirt, features the school logo.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 leveler
- Limiting different uniform requirements for different year/class/house 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

- Branded items required: Jumper (round neck or V-neck) or cardigan
- Branded items that are optional: Polo shirt can be plain white but should match the white polo shirt style of the school or a plain white shirt and school tie can be worn. Black tights
- Generic items accepted: Grey trousers, grey skirts, grey shorts, grey pinafore dress, grey socks. White socks are permissible if a dress is being worn.
- Expectations for PE and swimming kit

PE: a branded PE shirt should be worn with generic white or black shorts. Black leggings can be worn under white or black shorts but not on their own. Green tracksuit bottoms can be worn instead of white or black shorts. Branded green tracksuit bottoms are available but generic bottle green is permissible.

From September 2024 black shorts will be compulsory.

Swimming: the children's own swim shorts/swimming costumes and swim hat can be worn for swimming. Note the shorts should not be loose fitting Bermuda style and bikinis are not allowed. A towel will also be required.

- Expectations for jewelry and hairstyles: Long hair should be tied back at all times. Extreme hair styles (judged by the Headteacher) including 'lines' shaved into hair are not allowed. Hair should not be coloured. Jewelry is limited to a watch and one, small stud earring in each ear. NB earrings cannot be worn when a child is swimming.
- Expectations for shoes and bags: Shoes must be black, boots or trainers are not permitted unless it is a P.E. day and the child's class is expected to arrive at school in their P.E. kit. Bags should be small enough to fit comfortably into their child's locker or on a coat peg along with their coat.
- Which items are only required in specific circumstances or at certain times of the year: in the summer term green checked dresses are permissible.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Uniform can be ordered from Brigade via the following link www.brigade.uk.com or via our website [Borough Green Primary School - Uniform \(bgpschool.kent.sch.uk\)](http://Borough Green Primary School - Uniform (bgpschool.kent.sch.uk)). Paper copies of uniform order forms can be requested from the school office.
- Grey trousers, skirts, pinafores, socks, tights, non-branded, white polo shirts and green tracksuit bottoms can be purchased from high street retailers.
- A second-hand uniform shop is run from the school site, opposite the front reception desk. The PTA will advertise when the uniform shop is open. Parents and Carers can also email the school office if items are required

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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in accordance with the Home, School Agreement.

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 Body 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 Governing Body will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints policy
- Home School Agreement