

Askwith Primary School

School uniform policy

Approved by:	Headteacher and Local Governing Body	Date: 06.10.22
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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 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 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
- Offering 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 leveler
- 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

- Navy blue or pink sweatshirts or navy blue cardigan (plain from any shop or with school badge from Sue Knowles)
- Royal blue or white polo shirts (plain from any shop or with school badge from Sue Knowles)
- Black, grey or navy school skirts or trousers
- During the summer, blue or pink gingham dresses may be worn or black, grey or navy short school trousers
- Children should wear plain, dark coloured socks or tights and flat, black shoes which fasten securely with laces, buckles or Velcro
- During winter, children can wear suitable warm boots to school which should be changed once inside the school building

All clothes should be clearly marked with your child's name

For PE:

- A royal blue T-shirt (plain from any shop or with the school badge from Sue Knowles)
- Black or navy shorts and plain socks
- Children should also bring warm clothes suitable for outdoor PE as many PE lessons take place outside

- Children should have a suitable change of footwear for PE: black pumps (KS1) or trainers (KS2)
- For swimming, children should wear either a full swimming costume or swimming trunks (unless alternative clothing has been previously agreed with the Headteacher)

All items should be clearly marked with your child's name and be in a named PE bag. This can be kept at school and taken home at regular intervals to be washed.

As well as the items of uniform mentioned above, Sue Knowles also sells PE bags, book bags, summer caps and hoodies and jogging bottoms (for PE only) which have the school badge on. These items can be purchased if parents wish but are **not** necessary.

Valuables / jewellery / hair styles and other items

Please ensure that your child **does not** bring to school toys or other items from home. These may get damaged or lost and staff cannot be held responsible for ensuring their safety. Children in Reception and Year 1 will be given a fixed 'Show and Tell' day where they may bring a small item to discuss with the class. Items related to a topic may be brought in provided initial permission has been obtained from the class teacher.

No jewellery, make up or nail varnish is permitted (unless previously agreed with the Headteacher). Small stud earrings are permitted but must be taped up for PE with micro-pore tape, which parents should supply.

No extreme hairstyles. Hair length should be blended without lines or steps cut in and oversized hair accessories are not allowed in school. Hair gel and hair spray etc. can present a health risk in school so please do not put it on your child's hair.

There are no requirements for a particular style of coat.

Children should bring a reasonable size bag to carry their items for school. There is no particular requirement for a branded bag.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our school uniform can be purchased from high street retailers or should you require items with the school badge on, from:

S. Knowles

34 St Richards Road, Otley, LS21 2AZ

Tel: 07957 771721

Email: susan_knowles@sky.com

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) regularly arranges a second-hand uniform sale throughout the year. Please contact the school office if you require dates of forthcoming sales

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 by the Headteacher.

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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the local 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