

Abingdon Primary School



Uniform Policy

Next review due by:

September 2023

Contents

1. Aims
 2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
 4. Expectations for school uniform
 5. Expectations for our school community
 6. Monitoring arrangements
 7. Links to other policies
-

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 (*NB the term 'parent' is used generically in this policy to identify the main carer of the child*)
- 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as sweatshirts/cardigans
- 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
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/phase groups
- Avoiding a wide variety of different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities (see P.E. uniform)
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels where appropriate (kits for sporting contains are provided by school)
- 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

- Red school jumper or cardigan (branded or unbranded)
- White polo shirt (branded or unbranded)
- Black or grey trousers, grey pinafores/skirts/skorts/shorts
- Black school shoes or trainers (no colour on trainers other than black) / boots are acceptable in winter
- Red gingham summer dress or shorts in summer term
- P.E. Kit: back leggings/shorts/jogging bottoms with a white t-shirt (branded or unbranded) – no football shirts or branded clothing

- Swimming kit: long hair should be tied back, and a swimming cap worn (as specified by the swimming pool provider). Trunks/swim shorts (not baggy) or a one-piece costume
- Some children choose to wear shorts or leggings under their skirt or dress for modesty. These should be plain black or white, if worn under a summer dress.
- **Headscarves** worn for religious reasons should be plain and red, white or black in colour.
- **Hair styles** should be neat and tidy and promote our high standards of dress. Long hair should be off the face in all lessons and fully tied back for PE. Children may be sent home to rectify unsuitable hair styles. There should be no extremes of style or colour and no shaved lines or patterns. Hair accessories should be discreet, plain and red, white or black in colour.
- Children do not require large school bags or additional equipment. Coats, school bags and PE bags must fit inside a locker. All basic equipment e.g. pencils, rulers, handwriting pens, colouring pencils is provided by school. Any additional equipment brought in is under families' own risk.
- **Lunchboxes** should be named, stored on the year group lunchbox trolley and taken home every day. **Water bottles** should be named and they will be kept in the classroom other than when taken outside/to the hall for sports activities. Children are encouraged to drink water and should not bring other drinks into school.
- **Nail varnish, make up and jewellery** is not acceptable. Children may wear small, plain stud earrings which must be removed for PE and swimming. If children cannot yet remove earrings they can be covered with a plaster or tape provided by home as a temporary measure.
- Children may wear small, discreet **watches** which must be removed for PE. Watches that also act as step counters can be worn during PE, if covered by a sweatband. Otherwise, children will be asked to remove them.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Parents can purchase branded school uniform through the school office (or via the School Spider website) – see order form on the school website if you wish the office to handle the purchase
- Non-branded uniform can be purchased widely at local supermarkets or via the internet
 - ⇒ At the end of each term and at large scale school events, such as the summer fayre, school hold second-hand uniform 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 and unless notified otherwise)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher via headteacher@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk 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 via headteacher@abingdon.stockport.sch.uk 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 applying the school's Behaviour policy and parental notifications.

Staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation in cases where it has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, for example: suspected financial hardship or the child being a Young Carer.

- Children will be encouraged and reminded to wear the correct uniform as described above.
- All items of clothing and equipment should be clearly labelled with the child's name.
- Children will be asked to remove jewellery or accessories that do not form part of the uniform.
- These can be kept securely until the end of the day and then returned to the pupil.
- School does not take responsibility for lost watches or jewellery. Pupils in Year Rec – 4 are not allowed mobile phones in school. Year 5 and 6 are allowed a mobile phone in line with school policy.
- Money should only be brought into school for a specific purpose.
- Children will not be excused from PE or swimming without a written request from parents.

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 re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and Government Board. At every review, it will be approved by Resources Committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Young Carers policy
- Mobile phone/Acceptable Use policy
- Home School Agreement