

School uniform policy



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Article 3 (best interests of the child) The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

Article 26 (social security) Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Governments must provide social security, including financial support and other benefits, to families in need of assistance.

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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 Mrs Leonowicz, Family Support Manager], who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

St Giles' CE Primary School serves an area of high deprivation as recorded by the IDACI Indicators. Governors at St Giles CE Primary are fully committed to ensuring that School Uniform is affordable and accessible for all.

Governors have ensured that all items of uniform can be purchased locally from supermarkets as well as being available from the Uniform Market Stall (Willenhall Market). Branded uniform is available for parents online via School Trends but this is optional.

The school has significant stock of used uniform which is available for parents at no cost. There are regular uniform stalls throughout the year. The school will also offer to provide uniform items where needed at no cost.

For families in significant deprivation, the school will, where possible provide financial support for families to purchase school shoes, using a financial hardship fund provided by the church.

Governors are committed to ensuring 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 (Logo) as optional
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as school caps.
- › 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/house groups
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- › Considering alternative methods for signaling 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

- Grey or black skirt/tights/ trousers - Fashion trousers/leggings are not permitted. (*Nursery pupils are permitted to wear grey/black jogging bottoms for the Autumn Term)
- Red sweatshirt with/without logo or a plain red jumper/cardigan
- White shirt/blouse
- Black shoes *Not trainers. (Flat boots to be worn with trousers only)
- Regulation socks dark single colours or white
- Red/white checked dress for the summer if preferred

- Uniform hair style is to be adopted at all times i.e. no shaved patterns, lines, no extremes of short and long hair/or hair cut into/ use of gel/spiked or dyed hair
- Grey or black trousers
- White shirt/Polo Shirt
- Grey/Black trouser shorts (allowed for the Summer Term)
- Simple stud earrings are permitted only. No alternative piercings
- All jewellery to be removed for PE inc. swimming.

Physical Education Indoors:

- White T-shirt
- Black shorts
- Black pumps

Physical Education Summer Outdoors:

- White T-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers

Physical Education Autumn/Winter Outdoors:

- Tracksuit (Blue/Black) / Shorts/ Warm Top / Coat
- Trainers

- **Swimming:**

One piece costumes

Fitted shorts/trunks

Towel

4.2 Where to purchase it

- › Parents and carers can obtain the uniform which is available from a number of outlets including Asda, Tesco, Willenhall Market and other 'high-street' retailers. Optional logo uniform is available from School Trends Online, and on Willenhall Market.
- › Information about second-hand uniform, for example:
 - Free uniform exchange schemes, run termly and is accessible throughout the year. Please contact Mrs Leonowicz.

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs Leonowicz 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 Mrs Leonowicz 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 school's behaviour policy.

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. The school will offer to support with items of uniform.

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 every two years.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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