# Dunnington C of E VA Primary School

# Uniform Policy

***We Care, We Believe, We Succeed – Together***

***Our Christian Vision***

*'Encourage one another and build each other up' (1 Thessalonians 5: 11)*

Our Vision is to place the child at the heart of everything we do. It is to work together, where everyone encourages each other to be a partner in learning.

We aim to provide a safe, happy, caring and stimulating community, where every child is given the opportunity to reach their true potential and to celebrate their successes. Within our learning environment, children will:

- develop a thirst for knowledge, they will be encouraged to raise questions and develop their thinking and learning skills.
- develop physically, emotionally and spiritually, ensuring they are equipped for the ever-changing and demanding world in which we live.

In our school we will:

- respect each other's beliefs
- care for each other and the environment
- connect with the wider community

In learning and teaching we will set high standards and aspire for excellence in everything we do, ensuring that our curriculum is relevant and purposeful. We are determined to create an inclusive culture of learning where all children are challenged in their thinking, discover their talents, achieve to the best of their abilities and become motivated and resilient life-long learners.

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| **Policy Author** | Monica Gamble – Headteacher |
| **Policy Approved by** | Emma Daniell |
| **Date Approved** | 9th December 2024 |
| **Signed By Chair of Governors (Emma Daniell)** | |
| **Review Date** | December 2027 |

# Contents


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


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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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

## 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 and/or long-lasting items
- Considering 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 different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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

**Uniform Items**

- Red check shirt/blouse to be worn with red tie
- Red polo shirt
- Red sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan with logo
- Grey skirt, pinafore, shorts, skorts or trousers
- Red check dress
- Suitable black shoes (not trainers)
- Grey/red tights or white/grey socks

**Jewellery and hair**

- Watches (excluding smart watches) and stud earrings can be worn in school.
- Earrings should be removed or covered for PE and Forest School.
- Please ensure that long hair (longer than shoulder length) is tied back.

**P.E. Uniform**

- White polo shirt (with or without logo)
- Red shorts
- Black pumps (indoors)
- Trainers or pumps (outdoors)
- During winter, red, grey or black plain jogging bottoms and black, grey or white plain long-sleeved tops or 'hoodies' can be worn. 'Hoodies' should be plain black, grey or red. They should not have pictures, logos or club names on them.

**Swimming**

School uniform is worn when travelling to and from the leisure centre. The items below can be brought to school in a suitable bag.

- Swimming costume (bikinis are not suitable for swimming lessons)
- Swimming trunks or shorts but no long shorts
- Swimming hat
- Towel
- Swimming goggles are optional

**Forest School**

For Forest School sessions children will need:

- Wellingtons
- Clothing that covers the arms and legs
- Waterproof trousers and coats
- Hat, scarf, gloves, extra socks for cooler conditions

### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Many of our school uniform items can be purchased at a reasonable cost from high-street retailers. Should you choose to purchase school uniform items that bear the school logo, red checked shirts and/or red ties, these can be bought from:

National Schoolwear Shop,
3-4 Bulls Head Yard, Alcester, Warwickshire, B49 5BX
**Email:** hello@alcesterschoolwear.co.uk
**Phone:** 01789 400344

Pre-loved items of school uniform can also be purchased via The Friends of Dunnington who are a group of parents that raise funds for the school. Their information leaflet is available from the school office and can also be contacted via this email address dunningtonfriends@gmail.com

## 5. Expectations of 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 the Headteacher 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/carers 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/carers 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/carers 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 does not 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/carers 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 three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the governing board.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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