

# School Uniform Policy

## Kiwi School



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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 or clothing 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 our SEN Co-Ordinator, 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 must 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 by only asking that the royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan features the school logo although plain items in royal blue can be worn.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items,
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be embroidered by anyone, 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
- 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

As a school, with over 95% service pupils, we have always aimed to keep uniform expenses to a minimum.

**We ask that pupils wear a royal blue sweatshirt, fleece or cardigan which has the school logo embroidered on it, however the logo is not essential and plain royal blue sweatshirts or cardigans are permitted. The sweatshirts with logo can be sourced from Michael Hope embroidery and printing.**

**We ask for that pupils wear grey or black trousers, shorts, or skirts. This can include jogging bottoms, cycling shorts or leggings.**

**We ask that pupils wear white polo shirts.**

**Summer dresses may be worn and are either striped or checked royal blue and white.**

**For PE we ask that children wear a white round neck t-shirt with black or blue shorts. In the colder weather pupils can wear a plain black or navy tracksuit for PE. Children should wear suitable footwear for PE for example trainers or plimsoles.**

**Coats, bags and shoes are at the discretion of parents, but we ask that they are appropriate for school wear and shoes are safe for playing and running in.**

**Wellingtons are essential for our outdoor learning and play times. All children should have a waterproof outer layer e.g. waterproof trousers and a coat or a puddle suit**

**It is asked that long hair is tied back appropriately, earrings should be of the studded variety and not dangling and need to be able to be removed for PE lessons or covered with tape. This is for health and safety reasons.**

### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Parents can buy sweatshirts etc from Michael Hope, a link to the online shop is on our website – [www.kiwi.wilts.sch.uk](http://www.kiwi.wilts.sch.uk).

All other uniform can be purchased from any high-street retailer.

We do not have secondhand uniform in school, however approximately three times a year any uniform that remains unclaimed in lost property is displayed on the playgrounds for parents/carers to help themselves.

## 5. Expectations for our school community

### 5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear school 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:

- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the Inclusion Co-ordinator 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, 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 by the School Business Manager. At every review, it will be approved by the Full Governing Body and after approval uploaded to the School's website.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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