

# UNIFORM POLICY

V1.1

# St. Edmunds CofE Primary & Nursery School



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#### 1. Introduction

Welcome to St. Edmund's CofE Primary and Nursery School! Our uniform policy plays a crucial role in fostering a positive learning environment and promoting a sense of belonging among our students. By adhering to these guidelines, we aim to create a cohesive and respectful atmosphere where everyone feels comfortable and ready to learn.

Our uniform reflects our school's values—Respect, Responsibility, Perseverance, Compassion, Truth, and Trust and justice and forgiveness.

In addition, our uniform encourages pride, discipline, and a sense of unity. As headteacher, I invite parents, guardians, and students to familiarise themselves with the following policy, which outlines our expectations regarding attire, grooming, and overall presentation.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining our high standards. Let's work together to ensure that every child feels confident and proud to be part of the St. Edmund's community. #BeaconofExcellence.

#### **1.1 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

#### 1.2 Consultation

Include details of who helped put this policy together.

For each group involved, give a brief description of how and when they were consulted. Also, name the main authors of the policy here.

#### 1.3 Legislation & Guidance:

- **\*** Equality Act 2010
- **\*** Department for Education

# 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:

- \* 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 or gender.
- \* 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 and/or Office Manager, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be dealt with 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 <u>quidance</u> 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, by only asking that the school jumper features the school logo., but this is not a necessity.
- \* 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 leveller
- \* 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 uniform:

The official school uniform colours are plain white and plain Royal blue, without pictures or commercial logos. Black shoes complete the uniform outlined in more detail below. Items with the logo on are available from <a href="https://www.myclothing.com">www.myclothing.com</a>

**Girls**: Grey or black skirt, pinafore dress or trousers, Royal blue pullover, cardigan or sweatshirt, white shirt.

Summer: blue / white checked dress, grey, black or white socks or tights.

Boys: White shirt or white polo, grey or black trousers, Royal blue sweater.

Summer: grey or black shorts.

**P.E Kit**: Plain white T shirt, plain Grey/black shorts, trainers or plimsolls with navy or black tracksuit top and bottoms in colder weather.

#### 4.2 Jewellery:

- For safety reasons, jewellery should be kept to a minimum, e.g small studs, but these must be removed for PE lessons.
- Pupils may wear a small pair of stud earrings and a wristwatch.
- No other body piercings are permitted.

#### 4.3 Makeup and Accessories:

- Makeup is not permitted for pupils, as it can distract from learning and is not appropriate for the school environment.
- Hair should be neat and tidy, with long hair tied back.
- Hair accessories should be simple and in school colours (Royal blue or white).
- Fake eyelashes and nail extensions are not permitted, as they can cause safety issues and distract from learning.

## 5. Expectations for our school community

School uniform does not have to have our logo on it. You are very welcome to purchase non-branded uniform from a supermarket or other supplier, as long as the colours match ours.

#### 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.

#### 5.2 Parents & 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 (<a href="head@st-edmunds.notts.sch.uk">head@st-edmunds.notts.sch.uk</a>) 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 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/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 retendering contracts at least every 5 years.

#### 6. 'Sixcess' Christian Value Links

#### 5.1 Respect:

- Encourage students to treat their uniform with care and respect, symbolising their respect for themselves, their peers, and the school community.
- Highlight respectful behaviour in how students wear their uniform, interact with others, and maintain a positive attitude.

#### 5.2 Responsibility:

- Emphasise that wearing the uniform is a responsibility. It represents their commitment to learning, growth, and being part of the school family.
- Discuss the importance of keeping the uniform clean, neat, and complete.

#### 5.3 Compassion:

- Foster empathy by encouraging students to consider how their appearance affects others.
- Discuss the impact of uniform choices on inclusivity and understanding.

#### 5.4 Perseverance:

- Teach students that wearing the uniform consistently—even on challenging days demonstrates perseverance.
- Acknowledge effort and resilience in adhering to the dress code.

#### **5.5** Truth and Trust:

- Be transparent about the reasons behind specific uniform guidelines.
- Build trust by involving students in discussions about any potential changes to the policy.

#### 5.6 Justice and Forgiveness:

- Approach uniform violations with fairness and understanding.
- Use instances of non-compliance as opportunities for growth and learning.

Our uniform policy isn't just about clothing — it's a reflection of our values and shared identity. By weaving the Sixcess Values into it, it helps to support a positive school culture.

# 7. Concluding Notes

#### 6.1 Monitoring & Review:

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by governing body - either at Full Governors or Committee meetings.

#### 6.2 Links to other Policies:

This policy is linked to our:

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

# 8. Appendices

# St. Edmunds CofE Primary & Nursery School

### 8.1 Illustration of uniform:

