



# **UNIFORM POLICY**

Policy adopted by Full Governing Board

## Policy Review History

<b>Length of policy cycle:</b>	Annual
<b>Date of last review:</b>	3 February 2027
<b>Governor:</b>	Communication and Wellbeing lead
<b>Next review:</b>	Spring 1 2027

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# **School uniform Policy**

## **Introduction**

### **Our school uniform policy is based on a belief that uniform:**

- Promotes a sense of pride in our school.
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- Identifies the children with the school.
- Supports our commitment to inclusion.
- Supports vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils and acts as a leveler.
- Is considered good value for money by most parents

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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 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 by only asking that school jumpers feature the school logo.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, logos that can be ironed on are available from the school office for £1.50.
- 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.
- 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. At Newton Poppleford we do this through the PTFA sales that are held regularly. We can also organise this on request through the school office.
- 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:

<b>The only branded item that we request children wear is the Royal blue jumper / sweatshirt / cardigan.</b>
<b>Clothing</b>
<b>Winter/General</b>
Royal blue jumper / sweatshirt / cardigan
White shirt / White blouse
Grey trousers / Grey skirt
Grey socks / White socks
Footwear should be appropriate for School use. Shoes or boots in dark colours may be worn. Raised heels are <i>not</i> appropriate for safety reasons.
<b>Summer</b>
White shirt / Blue and white check or stripe pattern dress
Grey shorts
<b>PE Wear</b>
White T-shirts Dark coloured shorts (leggings are acceptable when worn underneath shorts) Dark coloured jogging bottoms may be worn in cold weather. Trainers Children must wear a Royal Blue school jumper for PE lessons Swimming kit: swimming shorts, trunks or full body swimsuits (we do not allow children to wear bikinis for swimming lessons)

Our expectations for jewellery and hairstyles: we actively take into account the requirements described above to avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010.

We do not allow nail varnish or make-up. Any hair accessories should be discreet and in school colours only. Hair longer than collar length must be tied back. Hair should be kept clean and tidy and should not be brightly coloured, worn in any extreme style or have an appearance inconsistent, in the Headteacher's opinion, with traditional good standards of uniform.

Bags and coats should be fit for purpose and of an appropriate size. Branded book bags are available to purchase.

At certain times of year, we may ask pupils to bring in or wear additional items appropriate for outdoor learning.

### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Non-branded items of uniform can be purchased from most high street retailers or from

- My Clothing: <https://myclothing.com/>

- Badges with the school logo, which can be sewn or ironed on to items of clothing, are available to purchase from the school office.

Branded items of uniform can be purchased from:

- Thomas Moore's in Exeter <https://www.thomasmooretoymaster.com/>
- My Clothing: <https://myclothing.com/>

2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform can be purchased from Newton Poppleford PTFA, who routinely also organize second-hand sales. The cost of 2<sup>nd</sup> hand uniform is kept low to support families and the PTFA ask for a voluntary contribution.

[https://www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk/website/the\\_ptfa/7031](https://www.newton-poppleford.devon.sch.uk/website/the_ptfa/7031)

## 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 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 have 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 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 the 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. Staff will always safeguard the best interests of the child and ensure that this is undertaken discretely.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by a member of the pastoral or senior leadership team in the first instance and then passed to the head teacher.

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.
  - Considers 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 Communication and Wellbeing Lead Governor. At every review, it will be approved by Full Governing Board.

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

This policy is linked to our:

Behavior policy

Equality information and objectives statement

Anti-bullying policy

Complaints policy