

UNIFORM POLICY

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## Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus as well as in this policy.

## Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school:
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class:
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance:
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents:
- is designed with health and safety in mind.


## We ask that all children wear the uniform and encourage them to maintain a good standard of clean and tidy dress in school. Please label all items of school uniform.



## School Uniform

Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo (These items can be purchased from the school office)
White polo shirt, shirt or blouse.
Plain grey school tailored trousers, shorts, culottes or skirt/pinafore dress. Please do not purchase fashion trousers or skirts, including stretch or jersey fabric. Leggings in place of trousers are not acceptable.
Blue gingham dresses may also be worn during the summer months.
Grey, white or black socks or tights. Snazzy tights may also be worn! Plain black school shoes. Black boots maybe worn during the winter months. Trainers must not be worn as an alternative to school shoes. Sandals may be worn during the summer months but flip flops or crocs are not allowed.

## PE Kit

Every child will need a PE kit in school to wear for every PE lesson.

Navy blue shorts
Plain navy blue T-shirt or a blue Aldingbourne school PE shirt with logo (These items can be purchased from the school office)
Navy blue tracksuit bottoms and a school fleece or warm top for cooler weather
Sports trainers, please do not wear plimsolls

## Purchasing School Uniform

Uniform and PE kits can be bought from high street shops and supermarkets.
We would prefer children to wear sweatshirts and cardigans with the school logo and these can be purchased from the school office. If this is not possible, children may wear a plain navy blue jumper or cardigan but no other branded tops may be worn.
Aldingbourne logo books bags and PE bags may also be purchased from the school office or you may provide your own book bag or drawstring PE bag.

## Jewellery \& Make-up

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games, or cover them with a plaster, to prevent them from causing injury.
A small wrist watch can also be worn (not a smartwatch).
If any items of jewellery are lost or misplaced this is not the responsibility of the school.
Children are not allowed to wear make-up. Pupils wearing make-up are required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it.
Nail polish must not be worn.

## Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children.
We also ask that all long hair is tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

## Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list in the school prospectus or as outlined in this policy.

## Equality

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate.
The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

## Non-Compliance

On rare occasions, for example, if slogans on clothing are offensive, the Head Teacher and/or Assistant Head Teachers are permitted to ask a pupil to take off the clothing, such as a sweatshirt / jumper.
In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.
On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person.
If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, for example, Forest School, parents/carers may be asked to bring the item into school.
Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform. However, in accordance with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, these should be recorded using our safeguarding recording system (yellow / red form) where appropriate. Sanctions for breaches of this policy are a last resort: the school endeavours to work with families to resolve breaches of this policy in a timely manner.

## ROLES \& RESPONSIBILITIES

## The role of parent / carers

All parents who send their children to our school should support the School Uniform Policy.
Parents should endeavour to send their child to school with the appropriate clothing each day.
Parents should ensure that all uniform is labelled clearly.
If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

## The role of class teachers and support staff

Staff will remind all children to wear school uniform and dress in the appropriate way - this includes rules applying to hairs styles, jewellery, make up, etc.
Staff will speak to individual children who do not adhere to this policy and, if necessary, to their parents.
Persistent refusal to comply with this policy will lead to referral to the Headteacher or Assistant Headteachers.

The role of the Headteacher
The Headteacher has a duty to enforce the school uniform and dress code throughout the school as part of the day to day running of the school.
The Headteacher will follow up any persistent nonadherence to this policy.

## The role of Governors

It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.
The governing body will support the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy.
Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe, practical and affordable.

## Complaints and Challenges

- The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.
- To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.
- When a complaint is received, the school works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.


## Monitoring and review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:
seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

## Review date September 2024

## Quick Reference Guide to School Uniform

The images below are intended as a guide


