

**Uniform Policy**

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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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) 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 Head teacher, 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](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms) 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

Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting 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 leveller

Avoiding different uniform requirements for different classes/ 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

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

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Winter  | Summer (optional) |
| * Green or Black waterproof jacket/coat
 | Green /white gingham, or striped, dress |
| * School fleece – zipped\*
 | * Green baseball hat\*
 |
| * Green cardigan/ V-neck sweatshirt\*
 | Grey shorts |
| White polo shirt\*  | Grey/ White socks |
| Grey skirt/ pinafore |  |
| Grey trousers |  |
| Green/ black/ grey tights or socks |  |
| White shirt/ blouse |  |
| School tie (optional) |  |
| Sensible black school shoes (not trainers) for everyday wear |  |
| P.E. Kit |  |
| * Polo shirt\*
 |  |
| * Black shorts/skorts
 |  |
| Trainers – plain |  |
| * Black tracksuit trousers
 |  |
| * Green drawstring P.E. bag
 |  |
| Swimming kit – from any store/ supplier |  |
| **School Bags (buy from School Office)** |
| School book bag (Reception children) £7.00 |
| School backpack (Years 1-6) £10.00 |
| Plain black or school bottle-green, available to purchase from well-known retailers, are also acceptable |

Jewellery is limited to one single stud piercing per ear.

Longer hairstyles are acceptable but must be tied back.

4.2 Where to purchase it

* All these items are available from Horncastles - 66 High Street Sevenoaks 01732-453574 or online at: [www.horncastles.co.uk](http://www.horncastles.co.uk).

\* Indicates branded items available with school logo.

There is no expectation on parents to buy the branded school uniform. Alternative, non-logo options are acceptable and are available in a school ‘bottle green’ at most well-known retailers.

Second-hand uniform sales are organised throughout the school year via the school office and the Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

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# 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.

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 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 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.

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 body 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 governors will also make sure that the school’s uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

# 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.

# 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

Positive Behaviour policy

Equality Opportunities Policy

Anti-bullying policy

Complaints policy