

School Uniform Policy

The Board of Trustees, CEO and Strategic team are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and requires all staff and volunteers to demonstrate this commitment in every aspect of their work.

This policy was created and ratified by the Trust Board in:	September 2022
The policy owner is:	Lodge Lane Infant School
This policy will be reviewed by the Trust Board in: (unless earlier review is recommended by the Trust)	September 2025
Policy Version:	V1
Signed by the Chair of the Board of Trustees:	Mr Jason Tipple

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

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 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

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 – we have items of clothing with the school logo but these are not compulsory
- 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
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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

Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform

Sweatshirts/Cardigans/Jumpers - Red

Trousers/shorts/leggings - grey, black or navy

Skirts/pinafores - grey, black or navy

Dresses - red and white checked or striped

Polo Shirts - red or white

Shirt/Blouse - white

Shoes – any sensible shoes or trainers as long as child can fasten and unfasten themselves

P.E Kit – FOR RECEPTION CHILDREN THIS IS NOT REQUIRED UNTIL JANUARY

Shorts

White t-shirt

Plimsolls or trainers

PE bag – to be kept on child's peg. School PE bags are available to order from the website below if you prefer

When children are taking part in an inter-school sports event, we provide a school t-shirt and shorts for this

Other Items

Any wellington boots and a warm, waterproof coat

Separate waterproof coat and trousers for Outdoor Learning

Red book bag – these are available to order from the website below if you prefer

Water Bottle

Nail varnish and tattoos should not be worn and long hair should be tied back

Only stud earrings should be worn and these should be removed or covered with tape or a wide elasticated headband for P.E lessons

Our PTA provides a sun hat for each child which remains at school

All clothes and footwear must be named

Where to purchase it

Sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts, book bags and PE bags with our school logo are available to order online from Birds of Dereham, using the following link:

<https://www.birdsofdereham.com/shop/category/lodge-lane-infant-school-774/>

Name labels are also available.

You can either pay a £5 additional charge to have your order delivered directly to your home address, or Birds will deliver the uniform to school and you'll be notified when it's ready to collect.

Second Hand Uniform

We also run a second hand uniform shop where every item is 50p. We have a range of sizes and clothes with and without the school logo, and all proceeds are donated to the Friends of Lodge Lane.

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school, unless told otherwise

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 Head Teacher 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.

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 Head Teacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by 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.

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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Local Advisory Board.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints policy