

# Bishops Tawton Primary School

## Uniform policy



Approved by Governors: Two Rivers Federation

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### 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
- To explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- To 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 gender, 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 of School 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 items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible for example, by only asking that the jumper, features the school logo
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year 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 -

- Grey skirt/pinafore dress or grey trousers
- White blouse/shirt/polo shirt or burgundy/white polo shirt available with school logo
- Burgundy jumper or cardigan with a school logo
- Red gingham summer dress
- Black shoes
- White/black socks or grey/black tights
- A pair of wellington boots (Pre-school/Reception)

### PE kit -

PE kit may be worn on the day of the PE lesson, it must reflect the standard of daily uniform and consists of:

- Plain Black shorts/Plain Black tracksuit bottoms during the colder months
- Grey Marl PE top available with school logo or plain white T shirt
- Grey Marl Hoody during the colder months with school logo
- Trainers (not skate shoes/fashion trainers)

### Our Pre-school Uniform -

All uniform items are available for 2 year olds upwards, we advise that the pre-school children wear a burgundy polo shirt and or jumper with school logo and have suitable clothing/shoes for outdoor/messy play

### Where to purchase it

The majority of school uniform can be bought from a wide range of retailers; however branded school jumpers/cardigans can be purchased from: [School Threads](#) (online)

Our PE kit is also available through many 'high street' retailers, but branded PE tops are purchased from School Threads.

Second hand school uniform is available through our thrift shop, please enquire.

## 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
- > 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)

### 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 of School 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 of school if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by ongoing dialogue with families to understand barriers and issues.

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 three years and will be approved by the full governing body.

## **Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

Behaviour policy, Equality information and objectives statement, Anti-bullying policy, Complaints policy