



School Uniform Policy

Approved by: Cristy Nelson **Date:** January 25

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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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the head teacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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

- A red and green tie (available to purchase from the school office and the uniform shop)
- A plain white cotton polyester blouse/shirt (without a logo - these can be purchased at any outlet including supermarkets)
- Grey skirt/trousers (these can be purchased at any outlet, including supermarkets)
- A green cardigan/"V" necked pullover embroidered with the school name (these can be purchased from the uniform shop or a selection of pre-loved jumpers/cardigans may be available at the school office). A plain green cardigan/"V" necked pullover may also be worn.
- Green, grey or white plain socks/tights (these can be purchased at any outlet, including supermarkets) Block socks for the boys.
- Plain dark "proper" shoes (not trainers, please)

Optional summer wear:

- Bottle-green and white check/striped dress (these can be purchased at any outlet, including supermarkets)
- Short grey trousers (these can be purchased at any outlet, including supermarkets)
- Appropriate sandals (please avoid slip-on sandals)

PE Kit:

Plain black shorts and a plain white t-shirt are required for PE, along with suitable trainers/plimsolls. When the colder weather approaches, children may bring in tracksuit bottoms to wear, which again will need to be black. These items ideally need to be stored in a PE bag, with all

the items clearly name labelled (this can also be purchased at any outlet including supermarkets). We encourage PE kit to be kept in school Monday to Friday.

Jewellery

Jewellery is not permitted except for one stud only in each ear. A watch *can* be worn, but the school does *not* accept any responsibility for loss or damage. Watches must *not* have access to a camera or the internet.

Nail varnish should not be worn, and we do not allow children to artificially change the colour of their hair in line with extreme fashions. Neither do we allow inappropriate hair adornments nor shaving designs in the hair.

Uniform can be purchased from:

Riviera Schooldays, 186 Union Street, Torquay, Devon, TQ2 5QP
Telephone 01803 293650

The school helps families by having regular sales of pre-loved uniforms run by the PTA. Pre-loved uniform is also available every term day during school hours from the school office.

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)

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/carers 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/carers 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/carers 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in line with our Relationship Policy.

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 delegate the review this policy to the head teacher who will ensure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents/carers 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 and approved 2 yearly or as appropriate by the head teacher.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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