

Great Barton CE Primary Academy

Uniform policy

Growth #Respect #Enjoy #Achieve #Team

"The Lord has done great things for us; we are glad" Psalm 126:3



Review Frequency	Every 2 years	Approval Level Required	Full GB
Approved By	Full GB	Approval Date	11 th October 2024
Signed		Print Name	Daniel Dolby Chair of Governors

This policy covers:

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1.1 Introduction

Our uniform policy reflects our values and reinforces our school's culture of high expectations and academic achievement. All pupils must dress according to the uniform policy. Our school uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community and it promotes a strong, cohesive identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security. Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times.

We have a required school uniform for several reasons:

- Uniforms unite the school. Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their uniform they will abide by the rules of the community.
- Uniforms reduce distractions. We are focused on achieving success. When pupils are allowed to wear their own clothing, there is the potential to talk about fashions and styles rather than learning.
- Uniforms make us all equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to school looking the same way. No one has to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- Uniforms look professional. Pupils look neat and ready to learn.

We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school. The school's Governing Body decide the policy for school uniform which is reviewed periodically and request that the policy is adhered to by all families in a consistent way.

1.2 Aims and Objectives

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 policy for 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 safe, practical and appropriate for the school working environment
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Helps identify children when out on a school trip
- Is considered by parents as good value for money
- Is designed with health and safety in mind

1.3 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 (we do not encourage hair dye)
- 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 Mrs. Ratley who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

1.4 School uniform

- Dark grey pinafore, skirt or trousers
- Dark grey trousers or shorts
- White polo shirt (logo optional), or white buttoned shirt/blouse
- Blue and white checked dresses (in warm weather)
- Royal blue cardigan or sweatshirt (logo optional)
- White, grey or black socks or tights
- Black shoes (no open-toed sandals, mules or high-heeled shoes)

Any item of school uniform can be purchased from high street stores/supermarkets. Items with the school's logo can be purchased from the school uniform supplier. Our PTFA also have a selection of second-hand school uniform.

All clothes should be clearly marked with child's name, please

1.5 PE Uniform and kit

In order to ensure the maximum PE session time, children are asked to attend school in their PE kit uniform on their class' PE days, or if they have a PE club.

This reduces the need to plan time into the school day to get changed. In order to maintain standards (as described above) it is important that children still look smart, professional and 'uniform' on PE days. PE uniform and expectation is as follows:

- Royal or navy-blue shorts
- Plain white round-neck T-shirt, or royal blue polo shirt (logo optional), or the branded training tee (new for September 2024)
- Plain blue or black sweatshirt & blue or black jogging trousers (for cold weather). No heavily branded jumpers or joggers and no football shirts please.
- Trainers or plimsolls
- Swimming trunks/shorts (not Bermuda shorts) or a one-piece swimming costume (no bikini or tankini), a swimming hat and towel are required in the terms that classes go swimming (upper KS2).

1.6 Other items:

- Book Bags and PE Bags with the school logo can be purchased from the school's uniform supplier (plain blue bookbags are acceptable). We do not encourage rucksacks in school as we have minimal space in cloakrooms and these are our main exit routes in an emergency.
- Waterproof coat and trousers (or all-in-one) for Forest School and other outdoor lessons are required all year round, as well as a pair of Wellington Boots for wet weather activities.
- Pupils should bring a coat to school each day, apart from during the hotter weather.

1.7 Safety in the Sun

It is our school policy that all children wear a sun hat in hot weather when outside. Children are encouraged to wear sun screen and preferably should either have one which lasts all day, or be able to re-apply it themselves. Staff members are not permitted to apply sun cream to pupils.

1.8 Hair

Pupils' hair should be neatly groomed and tidy at all times. Long hair should be tied back neatly. Pupils may not wear designs or words cut into their hair or permanent or temporary coloured hair.

1.9 Footwear

Pupils must wear closed-toed, hard-soled, all black plain shoes with a flat sole. Footwear with flashing lights is strongly discouraged. Open-toed sandals should not be worn, even in the summer term. In the case of extreme weather children can wear Wellington boots to school but must change into a pair of shoes before entering the school building. Pupils can wear trainers or black plimsolls for outdoor PE lessons. Barefoot work is undertaken for indoor gymnastic and dance lessons.

For Reception pupils, parents are kindly asked to buy shoes without laces (unless they are able to tie their own laces independently) and that trainers without laces or plimsolls are worn for PE. The expectation is that by year 1, children will be able to independently tie their own laces. All children to wear Velcro shoes for school and PE until they can independently tie shoe laces.

2.0 Jewellery/Accessories.

In the interests of safety, children should not wear any jewellery. Pupils may wear a watch (with no sound effects, cameras or games) and may wear one pair of small, stud earrings which must be worn in the lower ear lobe. All studs must be removed for PE by the pupil or taken out at home. Stud earrings that cannot be removed by the pupil for PE lessons will be covered with a plaster or tape. Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.

2.1 Naming Clothing and Property

VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of pupils' property and valuables.

2.2 Lost Property

All mislaid items are placed in the lost property bin situated underneath the bike shelter near to the pupil entrance. We endeavour to return all named property. At the end of every term, all unclaimed items of uniform will be recycled and reused by the PTFA.

2.3 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs. Ratley if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 Mrs. Ratley 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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

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

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
- Considers the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

2.4 Birthdays

Children are permitted to wear their own top when it is their birthday (if their birthday falls at a weekend or in a holiday, parents may choose the next school date to wear their own top e.g. the Friday before or the Monday after).

2.5 School Uniform Suppliers

- Book bags can be purchased from the school office.
- Any item of uniform can be purchased from a supermarket, or the high street.
- Items with logos can be ordered online from School Trends at the following link: [https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/Great Barton C E VC Primary School IP31 2RJ](https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/Great_Barton_C_E_VC_Primary_School_IP31_2RJ)
- The school branded PE T-shirt can be ordered at: <https://corporatetiger.co.uk/product/great-barton-pe-t-shirt/>
- The PTFA also sell pre-loved uniform (donated by parents of pupils who have left the school, or have out-grown the item) at a greatly reduced cost.

2.6 Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

2.7 Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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