

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

for

Wentworth Primary School



APPROVED BY GOVERNORS: Autumn 2024

POLICY TO BE REVIEWED: Autumn 2027

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.
- Ensure that pupils feel a sense of belonging to our school by wearing a smart and practical uniform which allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance.
- Recognise that it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

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 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 Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or School Office staff, 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 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 do request that **one** item of uniform (e.g. a jumper, fleece or polo shirt) features the school logo. This will allow pupils to be instantly recognisable as members of our school community when at events outside of the school (e.g. a school trip or sporting event).

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, for example, by only asking that the jumper, worn over a plain white polo shirt, features the school logo
- 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
- 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

Our colours are navy blue and white. We request that one item has a school logo for safeguarding requirements. The uniform as follows:

Winter

- Navy fleece (reversible shower-proof fleece is also available) with the school logo / plain navy fleece
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo (not knitted cardigans, jumpers, tank tops etc) / plain navy sweatshirt or cardigan
- White polo shirt (with a collar) with the school logo (not shirts) / plain white polo shirt (with a collar)
- Grey (not charcoal grey or black) trousers or skirts or culottes (not fitted shorts or tight fitted fashion trousers for girls)
- Black shoes (no trainers, boots or high heels)
- Tights - Navy or Grey

Summer

- Light Blue and white striped or checked dress
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo / plain navy sweatshirt or cardigan
- Grey shorts (not charcoal grey or black) or skirts or culottes (not fitted fashion shorts)
- Black shoes (no trainers, high heels or open toed sandals)
- White socks

PE Kit

- White t-shirt with the school logo / plain white round collar t-shirt
- Navy blue shadow stripe shorts
- Black trainers for outdoor PE or after school clubs
- Navy jogging bottoms/tracksuit (for cold weather)
- Navy school jumper

Swimming Kit

- A sensible swimming costume, swimsuit for girls and trunks for boys (no bikinis / tankinis / shorts)
- A swimming cap (compulsory) available for purchase from the school office (not material caps)
- A large towel
- Swimming bag

Other Items:

- An appropriately sized waterproof book bag (bags with the school logo are available to purchase from the school office)
- A clear water bottle

General Requirements:

- 'Plain' is defined as no fashion embellishments, no contrasting colours or markings, no advertisements or brand logos - including footwear
- Children are expected to be smartly presented and to always take pride in their appearance
- We ask that all items of clothing are marked with your child's name
- No make-up, nail varnish or jewellery

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings
- A small, quiet wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be replaced.

All jewellery, including religious pieces, must be removed during practical lessons, such as PE and swimming. If children cannot remove their own earrings, then this should be done at home on the day of PE/swimming. Those children not complying will not be permitted to participate in the activity. This practice is in keeping with LA guidelines. If you are planning for your child to have his/her ears pierced, we would advise you to do so at the beginning of the summer break. The studs can then be removed for PE or swimming when the new term starts in the autumn.

Jewellery for medical purposes may be worn.

Hairstyles

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted on normal school days.

Long hair should be tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands are acceptable.

At the Headteacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above for different circumstances (e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss/illness or as part of their religion).

Where to purchase it

Items that bear the school logo can be purchased through: <http://classembroidery.co.uk/>

For information on donating uniform in good condition or purchasing second-hand uniform, please contact the school office.

5. 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, presentable and in the correct size
- 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 in line with our Complaints Policy.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally and informally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined. When a complaint is received, 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 does not 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.

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.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Keeping Children Safe in Education