

This policy belongs to

St Lawrence CE Primary School

Part of the Tibberton CE Primary School and St Lawrence Primary School Federation

Uniform Policy

Revised: Spring Term 2024 Consultation with Staff & Governors and adoption of policy: Spring Term 2024 Review Date: Spring Term 2025

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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
- > Aims and objectives
- > promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- > engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- > is practical and smart;
- > identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- > makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents; is designed
- > with health and safety in mind.

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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 Head of School 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 <u>guidance</u> 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 from a local supplier (Baker and Son, Wellington)
- > 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 items with our logo and suggesting that branded items are optional
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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/house groups
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

4.1 Our school's uniform

School uniform plays a key role in promoting pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging within the student body. These factors contribute to students' wellbeing, removing the additional pressures of deciding what to wear and added stress of meeting the expectations of their peers. We want our children to look smart, well presented and take pride in their appearance. This sense of pride radiates in all that they do, and we want our children to feel a sense of pride being part of their community.

The school uniform is:

Grey trousers (boys and girls) or grey skirt/pinafore dress.

Pale blue polo shirt (with or without school logo)

Navy jumper or cardigan (with or without logo)

Navy fleece (optional)

Black shoes

Summer Uniform (from Easter to the end of Summer)

Grey shorts (boys and girls)

Pale blue polo shirt (with or without school logo)

Blue and white gingham dresses

Our School PE Kit

White T-shirt (with or without logo)

Navy/black shorts or Navy/black jogging bottoms

Trainers

Navy sweatshirt/fleece (with or without logo)

NB - We do not want to see sports logo wear on any of the items.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our school uniform with the St. Lawrence logo can be purchased from:

Baker and Son 29 New Street Wellington Telford TF1 1LU - (01952 641897)

We will provide termly second-hand uniform sales for parents to obtain items of school clothing.

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs Rebecca Nash Executive Head of School if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 are also expected to contact Mrs Moore 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.

5.3 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 Moore Head of School.

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 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.

5.5 Hair/Make-Up and Jewellery

> Make-Up

No make-up is to be worn by pupils except for special event days where relevant and appropriate make-up may be worn.

> <u>Hair</u>

- If your child has hair that is shoulder length or longer, for safety reasons we recommend that it is tied up. No ornate colourful hair accessories to be used.
- > Jewellery

The wearing of jewellery by pupils at our school is strongly discouraged on Health and Safety grounds and as a deterrent to potential theft, damage and loss. Items of jewellery are worn at the owner's risk and the school will not be held responsible for the actions of a third parties.

Small stud earrings for Health and Safety Reasons should only be worn as there is greater risk of injury with larger and dangly earrings. During PE lessons all personal effects should be removed.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head of School. At every review, it will be approved by the Chair of Governors, Lynne Law and it will be adopted by full governors by minutes at the full governing board meeting.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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