

Cumberland Infant School

School Uniform Policy



Approved by: Board of Governors	Date: October 2022
Review Frequency: Every Two Years	Statutory requirement: Yes
Last Reviewed: January 2025	Next Review due: January 2027

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

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
- 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 by emailing office@cumberland.portsmouth.sch.uk 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:

- Families having the choice to purchase items branded with the school logo, jumpers, cardigans and T-shirts or non-branded items which can be purchased by a wide range of retailers at a lower price.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler.

- Avoiding making specific requirements for items where a pupil's everyday items of clothing would suffice and to avoid parents having to purchase multiple expensive items, which they may already have purchased for use on non-school days. This would include, for example, letting children use their own nightwear when invited to dress up for World Book Day, rather than buying a costume.
- 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

- Red jumpers, cardigans or sweatshirts branded or non-branded
- White or red polo shirts branded or non-branded
- Grey or black trousers, shorts, pinafores or skirts.
- Red or grey tights and a spare pair of socks for P.E
- Black shoes suitable for running around in.
- P.E kit consists of a red short sleeved T-shirt branded or non-branded, a pair of black shorts and black plimsolls or trainers of any colour.
- In cold weather, leggings or tracksuit bottoms in any colour to keep warm in P.E.
- A P.E bag can be a red branded one or a small string pull bag of any colour.
- A red book bag branded or non-branded

Where to purchase it

- Polo shirts, sweatshirts, cardigans and P.E. T-shirts with our school logo on can be purchased online from Brigade at **www.brigade.uk.com** but as we appreciate that buying uniform can be expensive most larger supermarkets sell red cardigans, jumpers and white or red polo shirts.
- We have a limited supply of spare uniform which we can give families, please ask at the office.
- At our Summer Fete and new entrants welcome to Year R meeting, we always have a pre-owned uniform stall.
- The Hive Portsmouth based in Central Library near the Guildhall has a wide selection of free school uniform. **<https://hiveportsmouth.org.uk/>**

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 visits that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to speak to the headteacher 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 the headteacher via email office@cumberland.portsmouth.sch.uk 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 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.

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.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality and Diversity policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy