



School Uniform Policy

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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 learners 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 learners
- Allow all learners to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all learners to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow learners to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow learners to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow learners 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 learners or their parents/carers to get in touch with Family & Learning Support Advisor at Cann Bridge School, 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 for example, by only asking that the jumper or cardigan, worn over the t-shirt, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items learners 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 and classes. We do not expect parent/carers to change the school uniform immediately when moving from primary to secondary allowing parent/carers to change uniforms once their child has outgrown their current uniform.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities besides physical 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 learners on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

The current school uniform colours were designed to complement Tor Bridge Primary School (teal green) and Tor Bridge High (black).

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

For primary (Reception to Year 6) learners, the school uniform is as follows:

Item	Colour
Jumper with or without logo	Teal green
Cardigan with or without logo	Teal green
Polo shirt with or without logo	White
Round neck t- shirt with or without logo	White
Summer dress	Green
Trousers	Black or grey
Skirt	Black or grey
Shorts	Black or grey
Shoes	Black
School bag	No preference

For secondary (Year 7 to Year 11) learners, the school uniform is as follows:

Item	Colour
Jumper with or without logo	Black
Cardigan with or without logo	Black
Fleece	Black
Polo shirt with or without logo	Black or white
Round neck t- shirt with or without logo	Black or white
Trousers	Black or grey
Skirt	Black or grey
Shorts	Black or grey
Shoes	Black
School bag	No preference

For Post Bridge College (Year 12 to Year 13) the school uniform is as follows:

The school operates a no school uniform policy in Post Bridge College. A person's dress and appearance are matters of personal choice and self-expression. However, students in Post Bridge College should dress in ways that is appropriate to maintain their own and others health and safety. The school has developed statements to help inform what is deemed appropriate and inappropriate:

Acceptable Attire

Students are expected to wear clothing that meets the following criteria:

- **Footwear:** Flat, non-slip, enclosed shoes for safety and comfort.
- **Clothing:** Outfits should allow for free, unrestricted movement. Clothing should not be overly revealing or restrictive, ensuring comfort during a variety of tasks. No fashion rips.
- **Appropriate for Activities:** Students should wear clothing suitable to engage with teaching and learning, which may include playing outside, engaging in walks, or taking part in indoor and outdoor games. Be prepared to get soiled or dirty during such activities.
- **Skirts and Dresses:** Skirts should be knee-length or paired with leggings. Dresses should have sleeves, or a t-shirt should be worn underneath.
- **Trousers and Shorts:** Smart casual trousers or tailored shorts to the knee are appropriate.
- **Tops:** Smart, comfortable t-shirts with sleeves, at least to waist level. Long-sleeved tops are also suitable.

Inappropriate Attire

The following attire is not acceptable:

- **Footwear:** Flip-flops, open-toed sandals or high-heels. Feet should not be visible.
- **Necklines:** Low-cut tops or dresses.
- **Sleeveless Garments:** Vest tops or dresses with thin straps.
- **Slogans:** Clothing with offensive, inappropriate, or political messages
- **Ties and Scarves:** For safety reasons, ties and scarves should not be worn in the school environment. They pose a risk of getting caught during physical activities or interactions with others.

All learners will need the following PE kit:

Item	Colour
Round neck t-shirt with or without logo	White
Shorts	Black
Trainers or plimsolls	No preference

Non-School Uniform Days

Non-school uniform days are optional. Learners may still come to school in their school uniform. If parent/carers and learners choose to wear non-school uniform, the appropriate and inappropriate descriptors should be used from the Post Bridge College uniform section.

Swimming kit

The class teacher will inform parent/carers what they need as a swimming kit, this will include swimming trunks, costume or nappies (where appropriate), and a towel. A toiletry bag with washing products is required so that learners can shower before and after the session. Please do not send any flotation aids as these are provided by the school. Please only send any specialist equipment that your child may require.

Wet weather gear

A waterproof coat is always advisable as a little bit of rain does not stop us from enjoying outdoor learning. Parent/carers may also wish to supply a pair of waterproof trousers and wellington boots that can be kept in school.

Labelling items

Please ensure that all of learner's items of clothing are clearly labelled with their name.

Home:School Reading Book Bags

We provide all learners with their very first home:school reading book bags. Replacements can be ordered directly from the school for £7.50.

Jewellery & Piercings

For health and safety purposes, any piercings should be fitted with a stud to minimise risk of catching or pulling and should be limited to ear lobes. No other jewellery is allowed unless for religious purposes.

Technology

Smart Watches: Students should not wear smart watches to school. If there is a specific reason i.e. for health, this should be discussed with the Headteacher in the first instance. The school will not be held liable for any damage to smartwatches.

Liability for Personal Property

The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to personal items considered to be of high value or designer-branded (e.g. a designer black hoodie would only be replaced with a standard, non-branded equivalent). Reimbursement for damaged personal property will only be considered where the damage was not the fault of the learner and will be limited to reasonable, non-designer replacements. This includes items such as glasses, where only the cost of a standard replacement will be covered. The school does not reimburse for cleaning costs under any circumstances.

Frequently asked questions

What if my child will not wear a school uniform?

At Cann Bridge School, we recognise and respect that some learners may require additional support and time to adjust to wearing a school uniform due to sensory reasons. We are committed to fostering an inclusive environment where all learners feel comfortable and supported. We will work closely with parents/carers and learners to address individual needs and gradually work towards the goal of wearing a school uniform. Our aim is to ensure that every learner can fully participate in the school community while respecting their unique sensory preferences and requirements.

Please speak with our Family & Learner Support Advisor if you have any questions about school uniform.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Cann Bridge School uniform can be purchased from:

Trutex Schoolwear & More

Unit 3 & 4 Sugarmill Business Park

Billacombe Road

Plymouth

PL9 7HT

<https://plymouthonlinestore.trutex.com/store/department/98/Cann-Bridge/>

All items can also be bought non-branded from many high-street retailers.

The school has a small selection of secondhand uniforms available at school. Please contact the Family & Learner Support Advisor if you would like to make a request. The school welcomes donations of secondhand uniform to redistribute to families.

Parent and carers can also access the The Uniform Store Plymouth which is a free secondhand school uniform service www.uniformstoreplymouth.co.uk.

The school last carried out a best value comparison in April 2024.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Learners

Learners are encouraged and supported 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

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 Family & Learners Support Advisor if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- Their child's special educational needs or disability
- 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 Comments, Compliments and Complaints Policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor learners to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will discuss with families if a learner's uniform does not comply with the school uniform policy. Staff 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 learner 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/carers and learners
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all learners

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 every 3 years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Comments, Compliments and Complaints policy
- Parent Code of Conduct