

**Driffield Church of England  
(VC) Infant School**



***'Learn to let your light shine'***

*Matthew 5: 14-16*

# School Uniform Policy

January 2026

# **Driffield CE Infant School**

## **School Uniform Policy**

### **Statement of intent and ethos**

Driffield CE Infant School welcomes all God's children and their families and is a place where children of all faiths and none flourish and are inspired by the Christian character and values of our school and learn to love God, one another and themselves (Mark 12:30-31) in order that they can 'Live life in all its fullness' (John 10:10)

It is this ethos underpinned by the words from Matthew 5: 14-16 'Learn to let your light shine' that underpins the way we make decisions about uniform in school.

Driffield CE Infant School is committed to ensuring equal opportunities for all pupils, regardless of financial circumstances, and has established the following policy and procedures to ensure that no child is discriminated against by our school uniform policy.

In addition, we are committed to adhering to legal requirements regarding school uniform, and meeting all statutory guidance provided by the DfE.

At Driffield CE Infant School, we believe that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

For the purposes of this policy, "uniform" includes the following elements of pupils' appearance:

- Clothing, including the school uniform itself, variations of the school uniform such as PE kits
- Hairstyles and headwear.
- Jewellery, smart watches and other accessories.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, is affordable, and provides the best value for money for both the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

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## **1. Legal framework**

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'
- DfE (2025) Guidance on developing school uniform policy
- DfE (2025) Cost of school uniforms statutory guidance
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour Policy

## **2. Roles and Responsibilities**

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the Headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible, inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating in this policy how best value for money has been achieved.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Implementing the school's uniform policy on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if the policy is not being followed

- Ensuring that parents understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity, practicalities of curriculum etc.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils are encouraged to dress in accordance with this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity, practicalities of curriculum etc.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Headteacher if their child requires an exemption to the uniform rules for a period of time, with a reason why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

### **3. Cost principles**

The school will ensure that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the Headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform requirements do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. polo shirts and jumpers, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, e.g. supermarkets, due to the item's logo, colour, design, fabric or other unique element. Where the school recommends an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this.

This may include:

- Ensuring branded items are longer-lasting and unlikely to be grown out of quickly, e.g. PE hoodies
- Making donated second-hand uniform available for free for any parent who requests it.

The school will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

## 4. Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any protected characteristic very seriously. In line with this, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that, where appropriate, views and advice are sought specifically from parents of pupils, who:

- Are of a religious or cultural background that has specific dress requirements.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the Headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined below.

### Gender

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain gender, the school will ensure that the cost of uniform is as equal in price as possible across items for all genders.

This includes:

- Adhering to the procedures laid out in the '[Cost principles](#)' section of this policy.
- Not directly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional/ specific uniform, e.g. by requiring female pupils to buy both trousers and skirts.

### Religion and belief

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain religion, belief or culture, the school will ensure that there is flexibility to allow pupils to present themselves in a way that adheres to their dress requirements as far as possible, within the school's uniform policy.

### Race

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain race, the school will ensure that its uniform policy does not constitute unlawful indirect discrimination through blanket rules. This includes:

- Not banning hairstyles related to a pupil's ethnic origin, e.g. natural Afro hairstyles.
- Not banning hairstyles worn because of cultural, family and social customs, e.g. cornrows.
- Not banning head coverings related to a pupil's culture or ethnic origin, e.g. African heritage head wraps.

The school will follow the good practice guidance provided by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on '[Preventing hair discrimination in schools](#)'.

## **SEND and medical conditions**

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will ensure its uniform policy takes into account the needs of these pupils. This includes:

- Ensuring the school uniform uses soft, stretchy fabrics and avoids intricate buttons or hard seams.
- Allowing variations to the standard uniform for pupils whose medical conditions may impact how they dress, e.g. pupils with casts who require loose-fitting clothing or pupils with hair loss-related conditions who wish to wear head coverings.

Where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

## **5. Complaints and Challenges**

The school will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein.

When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

## **6. School uniform supplier**

The school does not contract directly with any school uniform supplier. The school directs parents and prospective parents to local retailers, where branded uniform can be purchased if required.

The nearest school uniform retailer is:

- **Drury Sports, 51 Market Place, Driffield, YO25 6AW  
01377 241612**
- **H&K Embroidery, 95 Middle Street, Driffield, YO25 6QE  
01377 271233**

Non-branded items can be purchased from a wide range of local or online retailers, including supermarkets etc.

## **7. Uniform assistance**

The school will hold second-hand school uniforms in the 'Uniform Shop' for all parents to access; access to these uniforms will be made available upon request to the school office.

A free branded book bag is provided to all pupils when they join the school in Early Years. This is funded by the Friends of Driffield Infant School.

The school will further support disadvantaged families in meeting the costs of uniforms. School uniform assistance will be provided in form of one **free school PE hoodie**. The budget for the school uniform assistance scheme will be derived from **pupil premium funds**.

For parents to claim school uniform assistance, their children should be eligible for means-tested **Free School Meals** (not Universal Free School Meals). Eligibility will be determined by the school by checking original documents from the relevant authority.

Parents will be invited to donate their child’s uniform when they no longer need it.

## 8. Non-compliance

Where pupils are routinely attending school without the recommended school uniform, the Headteacher (or designated Senior Leader) will contact the parents to discuss any difficulties they may be having with providing uniform. Support may be offered through access to the ‘Uniform Shop’ or other appropriate means.

The Headteacher will endeavour to ensure that parents understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity, practicalities of curriculum etc.

## 9. School Uniform

### Clothing

The school uniform is as follows:

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire	Cost per item from school supplier
<b>Regular school uniform</b>				
Maroon jumper or cardigan	Required	Optional	Branded jumper and cardigan available from school supplier or second-hand from school office. Plain maroon sweatshirt or cardigan can also be bought from regular retailers.	Jumper £11.45-£14.95 Cardigan £13.45 - 14.95  (if purchased from supplier – prices correct Jan 2026)
White polo shirt	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers and second-hand from school office	N/A
Grey or black trousers, shorts or knee-length grey skirt or pinafore dress	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers and second-hand from school office	N/A
Red and white checked summer dress	Optional	No branding	Available from regular retailers and second-hand from school office	N/A

Sensible, plain black shoes or trainers	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
PE kit (to be worn as uniform on PE days)				
Plain white t-shirt	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Plain black shorts/ leggings/ jogging trousers	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Maroon PE hoody	Required	Optional	Branded PE Hoody available from school supplier or second-hand from school office. Plain maroon hoody can also be bought from regular retailers.	£16.00-£18.95 (if purchased from supplier – prices correct Jan 2026)
Plain trainers	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	N/A
Accessories				
School book bag	Optional	School logo	A free book bag is provided to all pupils when they join the school in Early Years Replacement book bags are available from school supplier	£6.95-£8.00 (if purchased from supplier – prices correct Jan 2026)

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child wears their PE kit to school when needed.

### Jewellery

The school rules on jewellery are as follows:

- **One pair of stud earrings may be worn – these must be removed for PE**

Pupils will be advised that jewellery is their personal responsibility and not that of the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. **The school recommends that the wearing of any jewellery in school should be avoided.**

### Smart watches

**The wearing of smart watches (or any similar device that contains recording/ messaging/ camera facilities) by children is not allowed in school** due to potential safeguarding risks. These watches/ devices can also become a distraction to learning.

## **Bags**

Pupils are provided with a branded school book bag free of charge when they start in Early Years. Replacement book bags are available from our school supplier.

The school will discourage pupils from bringing valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

## **Hairstyles and headwear**

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on whether a pupil's hairstyle, hair colour or headwear is inappropriate for the school environment; however, the school will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

The following hairstyles, hair colours and headwear are not considered appropriate for school:

- **Brightly-coloured dyed hair**
- **Headwear with bold patterns or colours**
- **Excessive hair accessories**
- **Headwear featuring inappropriate words or images**

## **Makeup and cosmetics**

The school rules on makeup and cosmetics are, given the age of the pupils in our school, as follows:

- **The wearing of makeup is not permitted**

## **10. Adverse weather**

All pupils will be advised to wear weather-appropriate clothing.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- **Sunglasses with UV protection when outside**

Pupils will be advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing will be advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- **Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when outside**
- **Warm jumpers**
- **Suitable footwear, e.g. wellington boots; waterproof shoes**

## **11. Labelling and lost property**

Parents will be advised to ensure that all pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name and class.

Any lost clothing will be taken to the lost property box in the school entrance. All lost property will be retained for one month and will be disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

## **12. Monitoring and Review**

12.1. This policy will be reviewed annually by the Governing Body.

12.2. The next scheduled review date for this policy is January 2027.

12.3. Any changes to this policy will be communicated to all staff, pupils, parents and other relevant stakeholders.