

BOTLEY C of E (Controlled) PRIMARY SCHOOL
UNIFORM POLICY



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, having taken full account of the Education Act 2021 (Guidance about Cost of School Uniform)
- 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 pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- 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 a way that is appropriate for school- in the opinion of school Senior Leadership Team
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, SENDCo, or Family and Child Support Worker 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 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
- Contains options for branded or non-branded options
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of required branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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 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

September – Easter Holiday

- Navy V Neck Jumper (Must be logo item)
- Navy V Neck Cardigan (Must be logo item)
- Light Blue Shirt (long or short sleeved)
- Dark Blue/Light Blue Stripe Tie from Year 1 onwards (Elasticated or non-elasticated)
- Light Blue Polo Shirt (for Year R) (preferably with logo)
- Grey Trousers or Shorts
- Navy Skirt or Navy Pinafore
- White Socks or Navy Tights (Skirt or Pinafore)
- Grey Socks (Trousers or shorts)
- Black Shoes NOT BOOTS
- Blue Book Bag (Year R/KS1)
- Small school bag (KS2)
- Water Bottle (filled daily with water only – any design of bottle but clearly named. NOT METAL water bottles)

From Easter holidays until the end of the school year children may wear:

- Light Blue Polo Shirt- no tie required (preferably with logo)
- Light Blue Check Gingham Dress/Playsuit
- Post-SATS Year 6 Leavers Hoodie

PE Uniform

- Year R – 6 (Coloured Crew Neck T-Shirt) (Must be logo item)
- Navy Shorts that are appropriate for school- in the opinion of school SLT
- Trainers) (please do not buy plimsoles)
- Navy Track Suit for Colder Weather
- Logoed sports hoodie (optional)
- Drawstring PE Bag (any design but clearly named)

4.2 Other Uniform Information

- Long hair tied back at all times (Shoulder length and longer)
- No large hair accessories (navy/black bands only)
- Haircuts need to be appropriate for school e.g. no extreme shaved styles
- Hair should not be dyed
- No jewellery (apart from watches and 1x pair plain stud earrings)
- No nail varnish
- School bags must be small enough to fit easily on a peg
- House groups colours: Earth (Green); Air (Yellow); Fire (Red); Water (Blue)

4.3 Purchasing Uniform

- Parents and carers can obtain the logoed uniform from our official provider – Skoolkit. They have a shop in Eastleigh or uniform can be ordered through the link on the school website.
- Uniform of the correct colours can also be purchased at retail outlets of the parent/carers choice such as supermarkets.
- Ties need to be purchased at the school office or from Skoolkit.
- “New to you” uniform sales are regularly organised by FOBs. Uniform sales will be advertised in advance.
- If a parent or carer is struggling to fund uniform, they should seek support through the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher or Family and Child Support Worker.

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)

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 the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, SENDCo or Family and Child Support Worker 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/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 complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers 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 does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with through the school's Behaviour Policy.

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.

There will be regular uniform spot checks by members of the school's Senior Leadership Team.

Staff will be dressed in accordance with the expectations set out within the staff handbook.

5.4 Governors

The Whole Governing Body 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 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

The rationale, principles and aims of this Policy have been reviewed and agreed by the School's Governing Body.



Signed:

(Chair of Whole Governing Body)

Date: 19th June 2024

Review Date: June 2026