



Uniform Policy

Prepared By:	L Houghton		
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Introduction

At Sholing Infant School we pride ourselves on being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school organised events such as educational visits or sporting competitions unless parents are informed otherwise.

We ask children to take a pride in their personal appearance.

We believe that part of our role as a school is to support children at these very early stages to ensure a smooth transition as they move through school and onto secondary education.

Some items of uniform can be bought from our uniform supplier, whilst others are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local retailers including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is contained within this policy.

Aims

Our uniform identifies us as a community and reinforces our culture of high expectations and academic achievement. All pupils are expected to dress in full school uniform as this is a very important part of our ethos and culture.

“We believe that the wearing of a school uniform enables students to identify with their school, gives a sense of belonging, is practical and smart, reinforces a positive work ethos and reduces expenditure for parents/carers”.

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

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 must 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. Therefore, we have carefully considered the expectations for uniform and have considered the following:

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
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could also wear at the weekends and in the school holidays 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 years or classes
- 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 such as a change of colour or a significant increase in cost
- Regularly reviewing our agreements with our uniform suppliers to ensure best value for money.

Expectations for school uniform

All clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name.

SCHOOL UNIFORM	
Item	Description
Polo Shirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain white polo shirt; a branded option available from our school uniform supplier or a plain version can be purchased in an alternative retailer.
Sweatshirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal/electric blue sweatshirt; a branded option available from our school uniform supplier or a plain version can be purchased in an alternative retailer.
Cardigan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal/electric blue cardigan; a branded option available from our school uniform supplier or a plain version can be purchased in an alternative retailer.
Zippered fleece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Royal/electric blue zippered fleece; a branded option available from our school uniform supplier or a plain version can be purchased in an alternative retailer.
Trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey fitted trousers (not jogging bottoms)
Skirts/skort	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey-knee length
Pinafore	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey– knee length
Summer dress	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue and white checked dresses / playsuits
Shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grey tailored school wear
Shoes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black, no visible logos. • No trainers or fashion shoes. • For Health and Safety reasons we are unable to allow flipflops. • Open toe sandals are permitted as long as they are strapped.
Coat	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coats are a personal choice, but hoodies, sweatshirts and denim jackets are not considered to be coats.
Bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Book bags are recommended for all pupils– both are available from Skoolkit. However, we accept that bags can be a personal choice and if purchased from an alternative supplier they should be no bigger than A3 in size.
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children may only wear a pair of stud earrings and a watch: No hooped earrings, necklaces, rings or bracelets are allowed. • For Health and Safety reasons children may not participate in PE if wearing earrings. Please ensure that they can remove them themselves or do not wear them on day of PE.
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hair must be kept tidy in the interests of safety and hygiene (i.e. long hair tied back).



Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nail varnish, tattoos and make up are not permitted to be worn. • Small discrete watches are permitted but are the child's responsibility and they should be able to remove them from PE independently. Smart watches should not be worn to school. • Lunchboxes should be named, stored on the year group lunchbox trolley and taken home every day. • A water bottle is provided to Reception children and if lost a new one must be purchased from the School Office/ or from an alternative retailer.
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PE KIT	
Item	Description
T-shirt	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain white t-shirt
Shorts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black or blue
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trainers or plimsolls.
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To be tied up during PE lessons (including swimming)
PE bags	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A drawstring bag
Other	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A warm tracksuit (jumper and trousers) is recommended for outdoor PE sessions in colder months.

Where to purchase it

- Uniform can be purchased from our uniform supplier, Skoolkit, via their [website](#) or from their store in Eastleigh.
- Alternatively, all items can be purchased from high street retailers.
- We will be organising a number of second-hand uniform events throughout the year.
- As children grow out of their uniform we welcome donations of uniform to continue to support all of our children to wear the correct school uniform – please hand any unwanted items to the school office. Thank you in advance for your support.

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

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



Parents should contact the Headteacher, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy, for example in relation to their child's additional needs.

Staff

- Staff will talk to parents in the first instance, if they have any concerns regarding a child's uniform or presentation.

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.
- 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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every five years by the Headteacher in consultation with other stakeholders including staff, pupils, parents and carers. At every review, it will be published on the school website.

We consider the views of parents and pupils when reviewing our uniform and encourage parents to share any feedback they might have.

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.
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils.
- Respect religious or cultural symbols/ jewellery – please speak with the school to ensure that we are informed of your expectations.
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

