

# **Ursula Taylor C of E School**



## **School Uniform Policy**

**February 2024**

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## Statement of intent

Ursula Taylor C of E School believes 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.

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, and is affordable and the best value for money for 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 such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

## 1. Legal framework

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

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018

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

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour and Exclusions Policy

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The Local 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 and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue 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 how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's ['Cost of school uniforms'](#) guidance.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- 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.
- Providing pupils with reasonable adjustments if they cannot wear the uniform for any reason, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

### **3. Cost principles**

The school is committed to ensuring 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 policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
- LAC and PLAC.

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. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g. year group-specific items or house colours, to a minimum where possible to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school keeps 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, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Where the school decides to require an item of branded clothing, it will conduct an assessment to ensure prices are kept as low as possible, e.g. by offering sew- or iron-on logo badges for jumpers that can be bought at retailers instead of requiring special branded jumpers.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

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

#### **4. Equality principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in section 3.

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

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, 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 endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

## **6. School uniform supplier**

Our current school uniform supplier is:

- Price and Buckland
- Benneworth Close, Hucknall, Nottingham, NG15 6EL
- 01157591416
- [www.price-buckland.co.uk](http://www.price-buckland.co.uk)

The governing board will ensure that a written contract is in place with the supplier for branded items.

The school will review the uniform contract every five years, whether changes to the uniform are made or not, in line with guidance on ensuring best value. The governing board will be able to demonstrate how uniform is procured at the best value for money. The headteacher will work to ensure that the items are procured as cheaply as possible without compromising on the quality, e.g. by requesting standard-style items from the supplier rather than more intricate and unique designs. At Ursula Taylor, we ask for very few items to have a school logo – a PE T-Shirt for all children and a book Bag for children in YR, Y1 and Y2. All items are standard and represent good value for money and quality.

The school does not sign contracts with suppliers before requesting visualisations of proposed uniform, as well as fabric samples. Visual representations of every item are available on the Price and Buckland website and fabric samples are available to view in our school office.

School Uniform can be purchased online through our suppliers at any time during the school year. A vast majority of the items required can be purchased from multiple suppliers, including supermarkets.

## **7. Uniform assistance**

The school holds second-hand school uniform sales, these are run by the Parent and Teacher Association at a number of points in the school year. Access to second hand uniform can be gained by contacting the school office where uniform will be available upon request. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

## **8. Non-compliance**

At Ursula Taylor, we encourage children to be well prepared for school, wearing the correct uniform on the correct day. However, we recognise that children are not always able to wear the correct clothing and as such have chosen to take a light touch approach to non-compliance with uniform.

At Ursula Taylor, we will not ask parents to bring in the correct clothing for a child if they are non-compliant with the policy. The exception to this is if a child is dressed inappropriately or does not have warm clothes on cold days.

## **9. School uniform**

### **Clothing**

Our school uniform is as follows:

There are a range of branded items available from Price and Buckland online, with the exception of the PE shirt and Book bag, these are all optional and parents can decide if they choose to buy them.

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire	Cost per item from school supplier
<b>Regular school uniform</b>				
Red cardigan/ jumper / sweatshirt	Required	No branding	Branded sweatshirt and cardigan available from school supplier and second hand from school office. Red sweatshirt or cardigan can be bought from any retailers, it does not have to have a logo.	Branded Sweatshirt from £10.50 Branded Cardigan from £11.75
White polo shirt	Required	No branding	Available from school supplier, second hand from school office and available from any retailer, it does not have to have a logo.	Branded Polo Shirt from £9
Coat	Required	No branding	Blue / Red school fleece / Showerproof jacket Available from school supplier. These are optional	Branded fleece from £14.45 Branded showerproof Jacket from £14.75
Grey or black trousers or grey skirt / pinafore	Required	No branding	Available from any retailer	
Sensible, plain black shoes	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers	
<b>PE kit</b>				
Plain white t-shirt	Required	School logo	Available from school supplier.	PE T-Shirt from £5.95
Plain Navy shorts	Required	No branding	Available from school supplier or from any retailer	PE shorts from £5.75
Trainers	Required for Year 1 – 6 (Reception will be informed when Trainers are needed)	No branding	Available from any retailer	
Swimming Kit (summer only)	Required	No Branding	Available from any retailer	
<b>Accessories</b>				

School book bag	Required for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 only.	School logo	Available from school supplier	Book Bag £11.50
Year 3 – 6 small rucksack	Year 3 – 6 only.	No branding	Available from any retailer	
socks / tights (white, black or grey)	Required	No branding	Available from any retailer	

### **Jewellery**

Permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.
- A smart and sensible wrist watch.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and Swimming lessons.

### **School bag**

At Ursula Taylor we ask for a School book bag for Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children. Children in Year 3 – 6 can have a bag of their choice but it must not be too large as it needs to fit into lockers.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

### **Hairstyles**

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, 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 Procedures Policy.

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

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured, dyed hair.
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours.
- Excessive hair accessories.

## **10. Adverse weather**

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.



On especially hot days children may be permitted to wear loose fitting sports gear. Children will need sunhats and water bottles and are able to bring sun cream to school to self-apply if required.

In especially cold weather, children will need:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.

## **11.Labelling**

All pupils' clothing and footwear is required to be clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is be taken to the lost property box in each classroom. Staff will endeavour to return lost clothing to children wherever possible.

### **Monitoring and review**

This policy is reviewed every two years by the Local Governing Board and the Headteacher.

The scheduled review date for this policy is February 2026

