

Uniform Policy

Beavers Community Primary School



Respect – Determination – Cooperation – Equality – Honesty – Kindness

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It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for uniform on our school website.

1. Aims and objectives

Our uniform policy reflects our values and reinforces our school's culture of high expectations and achievement. All pupils must dress according to the uniform policy. Our School Uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school.

Our policy is based on the premise that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies the children with the school
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be)
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable and good value for money
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

2. Equalities

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 or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- 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 and makes them feel most comfortable

- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils 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 pupils or their parents to get in touch with the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and pass on 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 on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have 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' 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 items with distinctive characteristics
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils 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/class/house groups
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

Uniform

Required branded items:

Emerald green sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo

Book bag (KS1)

Optional branded items:

Fleece with school logo

Coat with school logo

Generic items:

Winter - Grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress

Summer - Grey or black shorts or green gingham dress

White polo shirt

Hijabs - black, white, grey or green with no pins or jewels.

PE kits

Required branded items:

Bottle green t-shirt with school logo

Optional branded items:

PE bag

Generic items:

Black shadow stripe shorts

Trainers or plimsolls

Black tracksuit

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. Should a pupil need to wear jewellery for any reason, parents must seek permission by way of a meeting with senior leadership.

Shoes

All school shoes/smart trainers must be completely black with no logos, and should be hard wearing and sturdy enough for children to take part in play. Boots are not permitted.

OPAL

At Beavers Community Primary School, we are committed to ensuring quality play opportunities are available to all our children. We believe that play is essential for physical, emotional, social, spiritual and intellectual development of each child. OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning) is all about using natural and man made resources to allow children to be inspired and creative at playtime.

As we encourage play whatever the weather, we ask that children bring labelled waterproof coats and wellington boots to school.

5. Where to purchase school uniform and PE kits

Branded items can be ordered and purchased from the Goodies website. All other items can be purchased from high street retailers and supermarkets.

A small selection of second-hand uniform is available at <https://oldschooluniform.co.uk/>.

6. 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
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the school office (in the first instance) 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 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

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 doesn't improve.

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.

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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils
- Considers with the headteacher any requests for amendments to the uniform policy

7. Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.