

# School uniform policy



#### **About this document:**

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
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

Complied by: Headteacher	Date: June 2024
Committee: LGB	Date agreed by Trustees:
Review Cycle: ( 3 years)	Review Date: June 2027

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#### **Wellbeing in our Trust**

We are all affected by poor physical and mental health at times during our lives and it is important the appropriate support is available in a timely manner.

Health and wellbeing is everyone's responsibility and we encourage an open and honest culture whereby anyone can discuss any issues they may have.

The Trustees of Creating Tomorrow take the health and wellbeing of all employees seriously and are committed to supporting our staff. The Trustees ensure that support for staff is available through:

- Effective line management
- Commitment to reducing workload
- Supportive and professional working environments
- Employee support programs
  - Health Assure (confidential counselling support available through Perkbox account).
  - Education Support: telephone number 08000 562561 or website <u>www.educationsupport.org.uk</u>

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### School uniform policy

#### 1. Intent and 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
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

#### 2. Legislation and Guidance

The <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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/carers to get in touch with Daniel Mulchrone at dmulchrone@wrenspinney.co.uk, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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#### 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 <u>guidance</u> from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 any items with distinctive characteristics where possible: for example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- > Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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
- > Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

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#### 4. Expectations for school uniform

We do not expect students to wear a school uniform, however there is one available if parents and carers wish to.

• Wren Spinney School uniforms are supplied by a local company, Karlsports.

You can order items over the phone, online and in person.

Address: Trafalgar Rd, Kettering, NN16 8DD

Tel: 01536\_601731

Email: karlsports.kettering@gmail.com

Website: https://karlsports.co.uk/

#### 5. Expectations for our school community

#### 5.1 Pupils

Pupils are not expected to wear the uniform at all times

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 not expected to make sure their child has the uniform and PE kit. We do expect students to have comfortable clothes, and that every item is:

- **>** Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

>

Parents/carers are also expected to contact Daniel Mulchrone at dmulchrone@wrenspinney.co.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

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- > 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**

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.

#### **5.4 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/carers and pupils

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#### **Monitoring Arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years and at review will be reviewed by the full governing board.

#### **Links with other Policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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