

Bernard Gilpin Primary School
School Uniform Policy

Aims:

This policy sets out:

- The school's approach to its uniform and clarification of expectations
- The school's approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers best value for money for parents/carers
- Explains how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

This policy has been developed with due regard to the following legislation and statutory guidance:

- The Equality Act 2020
- Cost of school uniforms (GOV.UK 18th November 2021)

Ethos, Vision and Expectations

We are proud of our school and therefore our policy is based on the belief that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of belonging
- is practical and distinctive
- identifies the children with the school
- is not distracting in class
- makes children feel equal to one another in terms of appearance
- reflects the sense both of community and of diversity that the school takes pride in
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money.

Some decisions on school uniform policy are made to maintain health and safety. For example, children are more easily identified on an educational visit if they are wearing a jumper or cardigan with the school logo.

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than on specified non-school uniform days) while, on the school site, travelling to and from school and on educational visits.

Parents/carers are expected to ensure that their child has the correct school uniform and P.E. kit and that every item is clearly labelled with their child's name, clean and in good condition.

Cost of Uniform

The Governing Body, in line with statutory guidance, has a duty to ensure that the uniform required is affordable, provides value for money and the cost of uniform does not preclude admission to the school.

School understands that branded items (those with a school logo or distinctive characteristics) cannot be purchased from a range of suppliers so school will also ensure that the uniform is of reasonable cost and provides value for money for parents/carers. We will do this by:

- Considering if branded items are necessary
- Limiting the number of branded items necessary
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils can wear such as coats and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items (e.g. book bag) to a minimum
- Avoiding different requirements for different years/house groups etc.
- Avoiding mandatory uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities (except for those required for Health and Safety e.g. football shin pads)

- Ensuring arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications to minimise the financial impact on parents/carers
- Consulting with parents/carers on any proposed significant changes to the policy

The current supplier of school logo items is Border Embroideries (details and ordering process can be found on the school website www.bernardgilpin.com)

Communication of the Policy

The policy will be communicated to all parents/carers on admission to school as part of induction procedures. This The uniform requirements, as listed below, will also be communicated each academic year as part of the “School Information and expectations” document given to all parents/carers.

Parents are to inform the school in writing if they are not able to comply with the uniform policy for any reason. For example, there may be a valid medical reason why a child has to wear alternative footwear to that in the policy. The Deputy Headteacher will determine if this is a valid reason and will respond. The expectation will be for the child to return to being in full uniform as soon as possible.

School uniform:

The following items are **mandatory**:

Branded items (those with school logo/design)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School navy/gold trim jumper or cardigan with school logo • School navy/gold tie (elasticated - KS1 and standard KS2)
Non-branded items
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White short sleeved shirt/blouse • Grey trousers or skirt • Grey socks/tights • Black shoes (no trainers or shoes that look like trainers, no ballet pumps or plimsoles, no logos, no sling backs)
P.E. kit (non branded)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy round neck sweatshirt (for P.E) • Navy plain jogging bottoms (for P.E) • Plain round neck white T-Shirt (for P.E) • Navy cotton shorts/navy skort (for P.E) • Plimsoles/trainers (for P.E)

Branded items can be obtained from our uniform supplier, Border Embroideries. Details are available on the school website <https://www.border-embroideries.co.uk/schools/bernard-gilpin-primary-school.html>

Non- branded items are available widely e.g. from high street retailers.

Optional items

Further branded items are available from our supplier to complement the school uniform but are optional (logo book bag, logo P.E. kit bag, stormproof coat).

Support with the cost of school uniform

Second hand uniform

Second hand uniform can benefit all parents/carers. It can benefit those on low incomes but also be more sustainable by extending the life of garments.

A small selection of second hand uniform for our school is currently available from the school office.

School may provide assistance to parents/carers e.g. providing branded items to new intakes of pupils, supporting parents/carers to access grants.

Jewellery, make -up and hair

No jewellery (except wrist watches), including earrings should be worn at school or during after school clubs at any time for health and safety reasons. Please note, staff are not permitted to remove earrings or cover them with plasters at school. Class teachers will make contact with parents/carers if children are seen to be wearing jewellery.

No make-up should be worn by children at school. No coloured nail varnish should be worn.

Long hair should be tied back for health and safety reasons and hair bands should be plain navy or black in keeping with school uniform.

School does not allow shaven heads or haircuts that involve the shaving of symbols or extreme colouration of hair.

Equality

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, 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
- Ensure, as far as possible, that our uniform costs are the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet allows them to feel comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious beliefs
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptation to school policy on the grounds of equality by asking parents/carers to contact Mr Iveson (Deputy Headteacher/Head of Pastoral care) to discuss any queries.

Breaching School Uniform Policy

Staff will monitor pupils to ensure they are in the correct uniform. Those breaching the policy will be given the opportunity to comply, the Deputy Headteacher will follow up if the situation does not improve. In cases where financial hardship has resulted in a pupil breaching the policy, staff will be considerate in resolving the situation and ensure parents/carers have relevant information.

Parents/carers will be contacted if children are without proper uniform and no communication has been received from parents/carers. This will also include when children do not have their full P.E kit.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This Policy will be reviewed bi-annually or in light of any changes in legislation and/or guidance. The policy will also be monitored via reports from the Deputy Headteacher on standards/communication with parents/carers.

Links with other policies

This uniform policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour and Discipline Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- School information and expectation letter