

# Stottesdon C. of E. Primary School and Nursery

## Stottesdon CofE Primary School Uniform Policy

This policy has been adopted by the Governors in consultation with the Head teacher, SENDCo and teaching staff. It was approved by governors on 25<sup>th</sup> November 2025 and will be reviewed by October 2028

### 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
- Avoid any peer pressure over uniform, branding, accessories which makes children/parents feel pressured to be buying or wearing certain things.

### 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 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable (we ask that cuts lower than a grade 2 or fashion cuts into hair of a grade 2 or less are not used)
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### 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 any items with distinctive characteristics where possible: for example, we are flexible to the school cardigan/sweater not having the school logo in order that it can be bought from cheaper outlets.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items 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
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items - e.g. end of year Uniform Swop
- 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 and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## Expectations for school uniform

### Our school's uniform

The school uniform consists of:

- Grey or black trousers/skirt/pinafore (not leggings or joggers and skirts should be at least knee length.
- White/blue shirt.
- Grey/navy/royal blue sweater/cardigan
- Black or grey tights/socks
- Sensible black shoes (not trainers)

In Summer pupils may optionally wear:

- black/grey shorts
- blue gingham dress



The children are required to change for P.E. and will need:

- **plain black or navy** shorts,
- a **white** tee-shirt,
- trainers

- a bag to keep them in.

During the winter months we ask children to bring a pair of plain black/navy jogging bottoms and a plain black/navy sports jumper. In the summer, for swimming, we request trunks or a single piece costume (no tankinis etc.)

### **Uniform Flexibility for Pupils with Sensory Needs**

For many pupils, wearing a school uniform is a simple part of the morning routine. However, we recognise that some pupils, including those with sensory processing differences or other SEND, may experience discomfort or distress from certain fabrics, seams, footwear, or restrictive clothing. To support inclusion and wellbeing, our uniform policy allows flexibility and reasonable adjustments. These may include choosing from a wider range of uniform items, wearing softer or less restrictive garments, or adopting alternatives that reduce sensory challenges.

Finding the right school uniform for a child with sensory needs can be challenging. A growing number of retailers now offer sensory-friendly school uniforms designed for comfort, ease, and inclusion. Examples of sensory-friendly options include:

- Soft, breathable fabrics (e.g., cotton instead of polyester blends)
- Seamless or flat-seam garments to reduce irritation
- Elastic waistbands instead of stiff fastenings
- Tag-free clothing or garments with printed labels
- Sensory-friendly footwear such as cushioned insoles
- Layering options like plain T-shirts under polo shirts for comfort

Retailers offering sensory-friendly schoolwear include:

- Marks & Spencer – Easy Dressing Collection
- George- Asda – Easy On Easy Wear School Uniforms
- Sensory Smart – Sensory Outerwear & Clothing
- Adaptive Clothing UK – SEN School Uniform
- Fledglings – Sensory Schoolwear Collection

Our aim is to create an environment where all pupils can focus on learning without unnecessary barriers.

### **Where to purchase it**

There is no expectation for children to wear clothing with the school logo and all items can be purchased from most 'high street' retailers. Where parents would like branded items these are available for purchase through 'Lads and Lasses' (the link for which can be found [here](#))

- A royal blue sweater with the Stottesdon school motif
- A royal blue jacket with the Stottesdon school motif

- book bags/rucksacks with the Stottesdon school motif

Since everybody wears school uniform, please NAME all clothes. All forms of jewellery, including ear-rings can be dangerous. For that reason, only watches and stud earrings are to be worn in school. No make up is allowed. Long hair should also be tied up daily, in a simple hairband to match school colours. Short hair cuts should not be less than a grade 2.

At the end of each year we do a uniform exchange. We are happy to organize this more regularly if parents would like to help organize this.

## **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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

### **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 Headteacher 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.

## 5.3 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Headteacher.

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

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 3 years.

### **Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND) policy
- Complaints policy

SEND Link Governor: Lauren Walker

SENDCo: Natalie Rainbird-Hitchins

Headteacher: Katie Jones

Date: October 2025

Date for review: October 2028