

School Uniform Policy

Portsdown Primary School and Early Years



PORTSDOWN
Primary School & Early Years

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1. 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. 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 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 school's SENDCo who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis. Please speak to the office to arrange a meeting with the SENDCo or see the contact page at the link below if you would like to ask a question or have a request.

<https://portsdownprimary.co.uk/contact-the-school/>

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.

Portsmouth Primary School and Early Years 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. We do not ask for a logo on any of the clothing (although parents may wish to purchase clothing such as a jumper with the logo on) and we do not insist that our nursery aged children purchase uniforms (but again they may wish to do so).
- 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
- 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 to acquire second-hand uniform items
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Our uniform for the school is:

- Black shoes or trainers (no backless or open toed shoes or shoes with a heel no higher than 1 inch)
- Red cardigan, red sweatshirt, red jumper or red fleece – with or without school logo
- White Polo Shirts (with or without school logo) or plain white shirts or blouses
- Black or Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore – plain no embellishment
- Black or grey shorts or a red gingham dress for the summer months – plain no embellishment
- No jewellery with the exception of stud earrings or items of a religious or cultural nature. We may ask for these items to be removed during certain PE sessions.

PE KIT

- Plain white t-shirt
- Plain black or blue shorts
- Primsole or trainers

In cold weather, children will be able to wear a jumper or plain track suit bottoms for outdoor PE.

Book bags

When your child first starts at Portsdown Primary School and Early Years (from Year R to 6) we will give you registration forms to fill out. When you have filled out all of the forms, including the electronic free school meal form, we will give you a free Portsdown Primary School and Early Years book bag. If parents prefer, you can purchase a book bag directly from the school office for £8.

Nursery. There is no set uniform in our nursery – this is optional.

4.2 Where to purchase it

The uniform with our school logo is sold through 'My Clothing'. The prices for branded items are very competitive and there is quite an extensive range to choose from.

Please use the link below.

<https://myclothing.com/portsdown-primary-school/15288.school>

There is no expectation that a parent needs to purchase school uniform with a logo on nor any of the other items available on this website.

On our website, there are also further details about uniform exchange service, offered via HIVE Portsmouth. Please use the link below.

<https://portsdownprimary.co.uk/school-uniform-support/>

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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.

5.2 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 teachers initially before being escalated to a member of the Senior Leadership Team (SLT).

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 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

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

This policy was shared with the pupils in the school council and KS2 in June 2023.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Relationships and behaviour regulation policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Anti-bullying policy
- › Complaints policy