

The Priory CE VA Primary School  
*Inspiring a generation to learn, flourish and achieve in a caring,  
Christian community.*



## School Uniform Policy

School Uniform Policy			
<b>Approval</b>	Board of Governors	<b>Chairman</b>	Geoff Tabor
<b>Headteacher</b>	Sarah Richardson	<b>Ratification</b>	21.2.24
<b>Date of last review</b>	October 2022	<b>Date of review</b>	February 2024
<b>Date of next review</b>	February 2027	<b>Maintenance</b>	FGB

## Contents

1. Aims
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
4. Expectations for school uniform
5. Expectations for our school community
6. Monitoring arrangements
7. Links to other policies

### 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 a child's presentation in school (uniform, jewellery etc.)

### 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 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
- 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 Mrs H Brown, School Business Manager on 01202 484105 or [office@prioryceprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@prioryceprimary.co.uk) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### 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 any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 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
- 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**

The Priory Primary School has a school uniform and we strongly encourage all children to wear it. We believe that wearing school uniform encourages children to be ready for learning, prevents discrimination, reduces arguments about clothes at home, makes recognition of pupils easier and fosters a pride in our school. We are often complimented on how smart our children look.

##### **SCHOOL UNIFORM**

- Navy tie
- Navy v-necked jumper or cardigan with school logo\*
- White blouse/ shirt
- Tartan tunic (Early Years, Yr1 & Yr2) \*
- Tartan skirt (Yr3 - Yr 6) \*
- Grey regulation trousers / shorts
- Grey socks with shorts or trousers
- White socks or navy tights with tunic / skirt
- Summer dress (blue vertical stripe) - optional for summer term and first half of autumn term
- Black shoes (NOT trainers)
- Book bag - Early Years, Yr1 & Yr2 - optional for Yr3 – 6

## PE UNIFORM

- Navy polo shirt with logo\*
- Navy sweatshirt with logo\*
- Navy shorts (joggers in winter)
- Drawstring sports bag
- Trainers (black if possible)
- Navy socks (plain ankle socks) – Early Years - Yr2
- Navy football socks – Yr3-6 \*

**\* Branded items available from QDOS suppliers**

### **Expectations for jewellery and hairstyles: -**

In general terms, you are advised not to allow your child to wear jewellery at school in case of loss, damage or injury.

- Long hair should be tied back using plain navy or burgundy hair ties
- Plain gold/silver studs (no larger than 5mm) are permitted for those children who have pierced ears, however during P.E. and swimming even these will need to be removed. On occasion, where a child's ears are still healing, children are allowed to cover their earrings with tape and the class teacher will assess whether they can fully (or partially) participate in the activity.
- Make-up, including nail varnish, is not appropriate in school and should also not be worn.
- Watches and activity trackers (e.g. fitbits) are allowed, unless they record images and video, but these remain the responsibility of the owner.

### **4.2 Where to purchase it**

- Priory logo school uniform can only be purchased from QDOS as of September 2024. QDOS is the sole provider of Priory logo items.
- Shorts, shirts, coats etc can be purchased from **any high street store**.
- Children in receipt of the 'Pupil Premium' are entitled to a **£40 clothing grant in the form of a voucher** which may be redeemed with QDOS. Please contact the school office in the first instance.

### **4.3 Pre-loved uniform sales**

- The Friends of Priory School PTA charity have started running a pre-loved uniform shop, via the facebook page '**The Priory School FPS school uniform shop**' and all proceeds are donated to the school. A new drop-off and collection area for pre-loved uniform has been set up in the reception area.
- The school also runs special uniform sales throughout the year, which are announced via the fortnightly newsletter.

## **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 School Business Manager if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics and/or temporary reasonable adjustments e.g. due to a medical condition.

## 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 School Business Manager 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 the 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 an informal discussion with the parents by the Headteacher in the first instance.

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 **in the future** and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the School Business Manager. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints policy

## 8. Policy Version History

Date	Comments / Reviewed:
September 2022	<p>New policy written by H Brown, School Business Manager in response to the new guidance on the cost of school uniforms (released November 2021). The deadline for completion was Sept 2022. 'The Key' was used as a basis for this policy.</p> <p>The website and school prospectus have also been updated to reflect the new requirements e.g. gender differences removed / unnecessary branded items removed and second hand items now available via the newly organised FPS second hand shop.</p> <p>The school is not yet fully compliant, due to the pre-existing contract with Stevensons, which can not be renegotiated until January 2024. This circumstance is foreseen in the new guidance and accepted.</p> <p>The policy will be rewritten once a new tender process has been completed.</p>
November 2023	<p>Contract with Stevensons ending and therefore the new Headteacher, School Business manager and Governors have found a new supplier and after surveying parents views have amended the PE uniform.</p> <p>New supplier is £1 - £5 cheaper depending on item than previous supplier.</p>