

Polesden Lacey Infant School



School uniform policy

Status	Non Statutory
Review cycle	3 years
Date written / last review	March 2022
Date of review	March 2025

Signed Headteacher

Date

Contents

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

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 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 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

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 heavy duty fleeces
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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

- A red polo shirt
- A red sweatshirt/fleece/cardigan
- Grey shorts/trousers/skirt or dress
- A red and white gingham dress (summer) Optional
- A branded red school coat (optional)
- Red or grey tights to be used with shirts or dresses in colder weather

PE

- Black shorts
- Black tracksuit bottoms (for colder weather)
- A school branded red tea-shirt
- A black sweatshirt either school branded or plain black (for colder weather)

Forest School

- Waterproof trousers
- A Waterproof coat
- A pair of wellington boots
- Watches maybe worn but no smart watches or those which can take photographs or make recordings
- Jewelry should not be worn unless for religious purposes and small stud earrings (Any jewelry should be removed or taped over during PE lessons)
- Long hair (male or female) should be tied back. Hair bands and Alice bands should be plain.
- Children should not wear make-up or nail varnish.
- Black shoes - For safety reasons children should wear strong shoes, with a heel height of less than 5cm (2 inches) Fashion shoes, open-toed sandals or boots are not suitable.
- A small bag to carry reading books to school daily
- For pupils on the walking bus to the afterschool club they may purchase a Polesden Lacey Infant School red rucksack.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Parents and carers can obtain the uniform from the Second Hand Uniform sales. Not only is this the most economical way to buy the uniform but it is also the most environmentally friendly method. Branded school uniform is available from 'The Kit Shop' in Fetcham' (<https://www.kit-shop.co.uk/school-uniforms/polesden-lacey.html>). Non-branded items are also available from The Kit Shop as well as many high street and online retailers.

➤ Information about second-hand uniform

- Second hand uniform sales are held every term and on at least one pre visit day for the new Reception intake
- Second hand uniform can also be bought by contacting the school office.

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, PE kit and Forest School clothes, 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 addressed by the Headteacher with the pupil and parents. This may include the pupil being lent uniform to wear whilst at school.

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 every three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be shared with the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy