



St Oswald's CE Primary School, York



Learning for all, caring for each other, preparing for the future

Let us encourage one another – Hebrews 10.25

School Uniform Policy

Last Reviewed	March 2025
Next Review date	March 2027

Review cycle: Every 2 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/carers to get in touch with Jemma Dunne, Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
- 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 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/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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

SCHOOL UNIFORM

POLO SHIRT / LONG-SLEEVED SHIRT	-	White or navy (with or without embroidered St Oswald's badge)
SWEATSHIRT / CARDIGAN	-	Navy (with or without embroidered St Oswald's badge)
TROUSERS / SKIRT	-	Grey or black (no logos) [smart grey shorts and blue & white summer dresses are also acceptable; skirts should be knee-length]
SHOES	-	Plain black smart shoes or black trainers
SOCKS/TIGHTS	-	Black, Navy or Grey

PE KIT

T-SHIRT	-	White or Navy (with or without St Oswald's badge)
SHORTS	-	Navy or Black
Jogging Bottoms	-	Navy or Black (required for outdoor PE in colder months)
Jogging top/sweatshirt	-	Navy or Black (required for outdoor PE in colder months)
TRAINERS/PLIMSOLLS	-	Navy, Black or White (trainers are required for outdoor PE)

JEWELLERY

In the interests of health & safety jewellery must not be worn. The only exceptions to this are **stud** ear-rings, watches or items of religious importance. Children will be required to remove these or cover them with tape for PE lessons.

HAIR & MAKE-UP

Extreme/high fashion hair styles or colours are not suitable for school. Nail varnish and make-up must not be worn. The only exception to this is when the school is holding a special event where children are being invited to 'dress up' (e.g. charity fund-raising days.) **We allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.**

WELLIES AND WATERPROOFS

We would encourage you to provide your child with named wellies and waterproof trousers. Any child with wellies will be able to access the green outdoor areas in all weather.

4.2 Where to purchase uniform

SECOND-HAND UNIFORM

FOSOSF (Friends of St Oswald's School Fulford) sell second hand uniform via an online shop (<https://friends-of-st-oswald-s-school-fulford.sumupstore.com/>) along with regular stalls, where parents can purchase good quality used items at **significantly reduced cost**.

UNIFORM SUPPLIERS

All items of our uniform can be purchased from most major supermarkets and **no branded items are expected**.

If you wish to purchase branded school items, our school uniform suppliers are **Emblazon** (Telephone 01904 624379) Items of uniform can be purchased from their shop at 138 Micklegate, York, by mail order or via their website at www.emblazon.biz.

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
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

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/carers are also expected to contact Jemma Dunne, Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- Their child's sensory or physical needs
- The cost of the uniform

Parents/carers 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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

We expect all pupils to conform to this policy. If a child comes to school not wearing the correct uniform, a note will be sent home to parents/carers reminding them of this policy and asking them to rectify the issue.

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/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Monitoring arrangements

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

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- [Behaviour policy](#)
- [Equality information and objectives statement](#)
- [Anti-bullying policy](#)
- Complaints policy