

Believe Care Persevere Succeed



Burnham Copse Primary School

School Uniform Policy

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

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 the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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

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

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

Our school uniform:

All pupils attending Burnham Copse are encouraged to wear the full school uniform, as detailed below. It's an important part of our school identity that ensures our pupils feel part of a team and take a pride in their appearance. Please ensure that all uniform items are clearly labelled with your child's name.

Daily wear:

- Jade cardigan or sweatshirt embroidered with the school logo
- White or jade polo shirt
- Black trousers, tailored shorts, skirts, culottes or pinafore dresses
- Sensible black school shoes
- Plain socks or tights that are dark coloured or white.
- In the summer a green and white gingham summer dress may be worn.

P.E. Kit

- White t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Plimsolls or trainers
- Children may wear tracksuits or leggings during the cold winter weather. These should be plain and dark in colour. Any designer logos should be small and discrete.
- For swimming lessons the children will need a one piece swimming costume or trunks.

Hair

Hair should be kept clean and tidy. All children, girls and boys, are requested to tie hair up where it is long enough to do so. This is for both health and safety reasons and to look smart and ready for school. Hair must be tied up in PE. Where hair is shaved it must not be lower than a grade 2. No extreme hairstyles or patterning are permitted. Any hair accessories (clips, bows and hairbands) should be small.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are a watch, a single plain earring in either or both ears ear-ring studs in pierced ears and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We will also make exceptions on medical grounds to include the wearing of medical bracelets or similar. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games, or cover them with a plaster, to prevent them from causing injury.

Coats

Children need a suitable (warm and waterproof) coat in school every day.

Bags

Children are provided with a Burnham Copse Book Bag when they join the school in Year R. In addition they may bring a small rucksack or bag to school to carry their belongings.

Suppliers

We encourage our children to wear a school jumper or cardigan with our school logo which can be purchased from My Clothing or Skoolkit. All other items can be bought from any high street shop or supermarket.

The PTA run a well-stocked second hand school uniform shop which stocks a wide range of school uniform, shoes, wellies and winter coats and is available every day at school. Please contact the school office for more information.

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.

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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the governors.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Reviewed: January 2024

Review: January 2027