School uniform policy

Alvaston Infant and Nursery School



**Written March 22**

**To be reviewed July 24 or sooner if required**

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| **Review date** | **By whom?** | **Summary of changes made** | **Date implemented** | **Date ratified** |
| 4.5.22 | MA | Second hand uniform added | 4/5/22 |  |
| 12.7.22 | MA | No change | 12.7.22 |  |
| 11.07.23 | MA | Statement re correcting uniform (with parents first ) and at the door with children where necessary and staff expectations  Statement regarding supporting parents discreetly  Non uniform section added | 11.07.23 |  |
| 13.7.23 | JH | Change for colour of headscarves so that black can be included.  PE tops amended to included a white polo shirt.  Col weather PE clothes amended so that joggers and leggings can be worn during PE lessons |  |  |

**This policy has been ratified and signed by the Headteacher/Chair of Governors**

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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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) 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 Miss Allen, 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](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms) 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. For example, by only asking that children wear a jumper that features the school logo
* Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
* 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
* 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
* Considering alternative methods for signaling 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 (this can be discreetly by messaging any staff member with the sizes and items you wish to seek)
* 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

**General Uniform**

Our general uniform consist of:

* a red sweatshirt/cardigan (logoed or plain)
* white polo shirt (logoed or plain)
* black/charcoal skirt/pinafore/trousers/shorts
* red checked dress
* white/grey /black socks or tights
* sensible black school shoes
* An optional logoed PE bag can be bought
* A red book bag (logoed or plain)
* An optional logoed red, deluxe fleece jacket can be bought for Forest School and/or PE.

If children wear headscarves for religious reasons these must be black, red, white or a chequered combination of these colours (e.g. red and white cheques).

Staff will be expected to correct uniform with parents in the first instance or at the door should the child wear a hooded top (or something similar) as a jacket in the summer or a hat, staff will be responsible for asking children to remove this at the door, before entering the classroom.

**Bags**

Children are required to bring a school book bag daily. These should be red. These should be named.

Parents and children are discouraged from bringing large backpacks into school, unless essential (e.g. medical need, spare clothes due to toileting).

Lunch bags are permitted – although, we ask that these be named where possible.

**Jewellery**

No jewellery other than stud earrings can be worn.

These must be removed for PE and any other lesson where the member of staff considers there to be a health and safety risk. Following guidance issued by Derby City Council Health and Safety Advisors, the wearing of all other jewellery is not allowed. Exceptions are made for religious jewellery and items worn for medical reasons. If you fall into this category please inform the school.

**Makeup**

No makeup should be worn by pupils, unless it is part of a themed non-uniform event (e.g. World Book Day).

**Hair**

Long hair must be tied back particularly in practical subjects (e.g PE). Unless connected to a special fundraising event organised in school such as Red Nose Day, pupils should not have brightly coloured dyed hair or extreme patterns in hair.

**P.E Kit**

The correct PE kit is:

* a white, round neck t-shirt or white polo shirt
* black shorts or blue shorts / black or grey joggers/ black leggings (must be thick enough so that underwear is not showing)
* An optional red fleeced jacket, which can also be worn for forest school
* a pair of plimsolls or trainers

A red PE bag can be purchased, if required for extracurricular activities.

Children will be required to come to school in their PE kit on their PE day – please check this day with your child’s class teacher.

If a child has forgotten their P.E kit, they may be able to borrow school kit for indoor P.E sessions. All children are expected to have a PE kit which they will come to school in.

Jewellery worn by children must be taken off when doing PE If a child is unable to take their stud earrings out, they will be required to provide either plasters or tape to cover these, for health and safety purposes.

Children with long hair need to have their hair tied up for all PE sessions.

If parental consent has been given to wear a religious artefact in school these need to be removed or made safe for P.E. e.g. Sikh bangles must be covered for the lesson with a sweat band.

**Forest School**

All children will experience a Forest School Session whilst at Alvaston Infant and Nursery School. You will be notified when your child will be attending Forest School. As children will be outdoors, they will need to wear appropriate clothing.

In the winter children will be expected to wear:

* Their usual white school polo top / PE top
* Plain blue or black joggers / hooded top
* Hats and gloves (if required)
* An optional logoed red fleeced rain coat can be purchased from our uniform shop
* An optional waterproof suit (school do have spares for the children to borrow)
* Wellies / snow boots (school will have a limited supply of boots children can borrow)

Please note, in summer, children will be outdoors amongst the trees, which may be scratchy. Therefore, we recommend that they wear their long jogging bottoms unless the weather is extremely hot.

**Other**

Items which are only required in specific circumstances or at certain times of the year:

* wellies or snow boots – pupils should be sent in with a named carrier bag and a change of shoes for inside
* umbrellas –these will be stored in the class cloakroom area until the end of the day
* hat, scarf, gloves – these should be labelled where possible. Parents/carers are asked to remind children of where to store these when inside – e.g. book bag, coat pockets. These must be removed at the door after playtime
* snow wear – children are expected to wear normal uniform underneath or have uniform in a named carrier bag if necessary
* spare uniform (toileting) – any spare uniform should be labelled and kept in the child’s bag (see above) or handed to an appropriate member of staff. Parents/carers are asked to provide nappy sacks (or equivalent) in which any wet/soiled clothing can be placed.

4.2 Where to purchase uniform

General school uniform and PE kits for Alvaston Infant and Nursery school may be purchased from ‘high-street’ retailers and/or larger supermarkets that sell clothing. If parents/carers are unsure of whereabouts then they are welcome to contact the main reception to ask for support.

Uniform which display the current school logo are available from online from:www.uniformeasy.com - <https://www.uniform-direct.com/acatalog/Alvaston-Infant-and-Nursery-School.html> The school is not affiliated with this website and cannot be held responsible for purchases, returns etc.

Second-hand uniform

Throughout the year, we will kindly ask that any uniform that your child does not wear (and is still in good condition) is donated to school. The school will then hold two second-hand uniform events each academic year (in February and July). The last school week in July will be a non-uniform week so parents can donate any uniform to others before the summer term. All donated uniform will be of no charge to parents, but should they wish to, they can may make a small monetary donation to the PTFA. This will help improve trips and experiences for all children in school. The date of these events will be communicated with parents in food time. School will also discreetly help any parent throughout the year – parents are welcome to message a teacher they feel comfortable asking and the school will seek out items in order to support families.

School may provide second hand uniform to children for toileting or other accidents (e.g. injury) or if weather conditions determine e.g. children are cold and require a jumper.

# 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)

Where pupils are allowed into school this will be communicated to parents (e.g. via Dojo, text message). If parents require support with any non-uniform issue then should contact their child’s class teacher prior to the non-uniform event. The school cannot promise to provide a suitable non-uniform but will support where possible, with the consent of the parent and child.

Pupils and parents are also encouraged to contact Miss Allen, 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 Miss Allen, 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 Miss Allen, the Headteacher if the situation doesn’t improve.

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.

Staff must ensure children enter their classroom in full uniform e.g. not wearing hats and glasses.

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. Non uniform days

During non uniform days, children will be invited to dress to express themselves and this is non compulsory. Staff will try to give ample notice so families can plan this in advance. Children must not attend school wearing any offensive clothing or inappropriate clothing. Short shorts and cropped tops will not be allowed and parents will be contacted should this occur.

# 7. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if required. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

# 8. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

* Relationships policy
* Equality information and objectives statement
* Complaints policy