School Uniform Policy

Formally adopted by the Governing Board of:-	**Stoke Holy Cross Primary School**
Last updated:- **Next review:-**	**September 2026** **September 2027**

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
- To provide an affordable, practical and safe range of school wear.
- To ensure pupils are correctly dressed in accordance with our Health & Safety policy.
- To ensure pupils are smartly dressed, promoting the image of the school to the wider community.
- To encourage a sense of community and belonging.
- To adhere to rules of dress for future workplace environments.

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 a 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 our office team (office@stokeholycross.norfolk.sch.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.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as avoiding logo PE shirts
- 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 providing a team kit, including essential equipment such as shin pads
- 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 uniform

In School:

- Navy blue v or crew neck sweatshirt or cardigan – strictly no coloured/logo/slogan hoodies other than navy permitted - school logo optional
- Light blue polo shirt – school logo optional
- Grey/navy/black trousers, leggings, jogging bottoms, skirt or pinafore dress
- Royal or navy blue /white checked dress
- Navy, black or grey shorts – **at least 20cm in length**

Footwear

- flat plain black shoes or ankle boots
- wellingtons for playtimes on the field (must be in school every day)
- trainers for PE (left in school, needed everyday)

PE & Games:

Football team kits or T-shirts with logos/slogans are not permitted.

Lower School – Reception, Y1, Y2

- Plain white t-shirt – no logo/slogans permitted
- Plain black shorts or skort, of a sensible length i.e. **18-20cms**, for school/physical education – no logo/slogans permitted
- Plain navy, black grey jogging/tracksuit, leggings and hoodie for cooler days for outdoor PE – no logos/slogans permitted
- Trainers for PE/Daily Run (see footwear section)

KS2 – from Y3-Y6

KS2 pupils are organized into three houses – Tas – green, Wensum – blue and Yare – red.

- Plain house coloured P.E. round-neck t-shirt – no logo/slogans – permitted, no house name necessary – optional purchase of house-named t-shirt from our suppliers
- Plain black shorts or skort, of a sensible length i.e. **20cms**, for school/physical education – no logo/slogans permitted

- Plain navy, black grey jogging/tracksuit, leggings and hoodie for cooler days for outdoor PE – no logos/slogans permitted
- Trainers for P.E. (see footwear above)

Specific Year Group/Phase/Curriculum Activity items

Swimming

- Swimming is a compulsory aspect of the KS2 curriculum - KS2 year group pupils will be invited to swim in the autumn and spring terms. School will inform you of when this is scheduled. Please do not buy anything until you have been informed.

- For swimming:
  Close fitting trunks (not leisure/baggy swim shorts for safety reasons) or a **one piece** costume (not a tankini or crop top/briefs)
  (In exceptional cases, a t-shirt may be worn but please seek advice/permission from school in the first instance)
  Swimming cap – cloth or rubber
  Goggles
  Towel

  Suitable water-retaining bag/carrier bag for the above contents

  Forest School

  All pupils have access to the Forest School sessions across the year:

  Reception – weekly,
  Year groups 1-5 – on an approximately 5 session rotation over the year,
  Y6 – 2 sessions in the summer term,
  Invitees for Nurture intervention sessions.

- Old clothes – long sleeves preferable for safety
- Coat suitable (warm and/or waterproof) for outdoor learning
- Suitable shoes/wellies for outdoor learning
- Warm or sun-safe hat for colder/hot weather
- Waterproof trousers – optional

There is no requirement to buy waterproof clothing especially for the Forest sessions.

Bike-ability

Y5 and Y6 have an opportunity to learn to cycle safely and manage risks on the road. School will inform you when this is scheduled – usually spring and summer terms.

- A road-worthy bike.
- A cycle helmet in good visible condition.

Accessories/Additional Items:

- Jewellery is strictly limited to one small pair of stud/sleeper earrings and a watch. The watch must not have the capacity to take photos or send messages. These items **must** be removed for swimming and/or taped over for PE. The pupils must be able to do this independently.
- Hair should be of a moderate style.

- If long, should be tied back for Health & Safety reasons.
- Hair accessories to be simple, safe and not a distraction.
- No hair dyes permitted. If hair is dyed at the weekend/holidays, please use wash in, wash out products.
- No nail varnish or make up should be worn.
- Sunglasses are permitted but it is the parent/carers' responsibility to ensure these are safe.
- Sunhats are actively encouraged to support our 'sun safety' education.
- Cycle helmets are very strongly encouraged for all children cycling to school.
- Pupils may like to bring a suitable bag/back pack to school, for their belongings.
- Pupils should not bring in personal pencil cases as equipment is provided by school.
- No toys or other items are permitted unless authorized for curriculum use or part of a Positive Behaviour Support Plan.
- Each pupil needs a named bottled – reusable plastic or metal – washed daily for water.

All uniform should be clearly named.

4.2 Where to purchase it

There is no necessity to purchase school embroidered uniform - plain supermarket versions in the correct colours are entirely acceptable.

Embroidered items are available from our school wear provider:

https://www.birdsofdereham.com/shop/category/schools-stoke-holy-cross-_primary-179/

The 'lost property' rail is kept in the school entrance for parents/carers to take unnamed uniform.

Clean, washed, good condition uniform items will be available to take at school events such as cake sales, picnics, etc.

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)

Parents/carers are expected to contact the Headteacher, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their child's protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents/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/carers 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 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.

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

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 annually by the Headteacher. 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
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Parent and Visitor Behaviour Policy