

# Chase Lane Primary School & Nursery Unit

## SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY



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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 sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Uniform will be listed on a gender neutral basis to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Our uniform costs are the same for all pupils
- Pupils are able to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Pupils are able to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Pupils may request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Pupils may wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- The school may make adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch via the school email address, and a member of the Admin Team will answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

## 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

- The socio-economic status of your school community
- Pupil demographics
- Uniform of neighbouring schools or schools in your trust
- Views of your school community

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:

- Offering good quality items sourced from affordable suppliers
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Introducing an logo badge 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
- Removing the branded items, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Ensuring the same uniform is adopted across the whole school, 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

## 4. Expectations for school uniform

### 4.1 Our school's uniform

- Grey or bottle green (not black) skirts/pinafores/trousers;
- White blouses/shirts/polo shirts;
- Bottle green jumpers/cardigans/sweatshirts;
- Green fleece;
- Bottle green and yellow ties (optional);
- Small check bottle green and white summer dresses;
- Shoes black; if not shoes, black trainers which are buckled, laced (if they can tie them on their own) or Velcro fastened – no brightly coloured logos, stripes, soles or laces or flashing lights;
- Closed in sandals : no open sandals or flip flops;
- Boots : black flat boots – no suede or fabric boots;
- Bags: small dark coloured bag – no handbags, no large rucksacks – maximum size 24 cms wide x 36 cms high.
- Earrings: studs only.
- Tights: grey/Socks white or grey;
- Green or grey head scarf, if required for religious reasons
- **PE Kit** consists of green shorts and yellow top with Chase Lane logo on it for Year 1 to 6 children, white or grey socks and we would also like the children to have a grey or black jogging bottoms. In some cases, for indoor PE, dark grey or black leggings may be worn for religious observance **only** but not school tights. Trainers (any colour) or plimsolls can be worn indoors and trainers are **recommended** for outdoors.

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

**The school uniform shop is located via our website.**

**Please follow the link below.**

<http://www.chaselanepprimary.waltham.sch.uk/page/?title=School+Uniform%26%23160%3B&pid=36>

**There is no obligation for parents to purchase uniform from the school directly. Local retailers offer more affordable alternatives.**

**The school has a limited number of preloved uniform available for 50p per item.**

## 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 Mr Jeffery 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 Mr Jeffery 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 regarding 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 dealt with by following the steps set out in our Code of Conduct Policy.

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 body 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 governing body 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 in January by School Business Manager. At every review, it will be approved by Finance & General Purposes Committee.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Pupil Code of Conduct Policy
- Equality Policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Wellbeing Policy