

Riverside Primary School

School Uniform Policy

2023 - 2026

Updated



RIVERSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Background

There is currently no legislation that deals specifically with school uniform or other aspects of appearance such as hair colour and style, and the wearing of jewellery and make-up.

However, the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021 inserted a new section 551A into the Education Act 1996 demanding that the DfE must issue statutory guidance relating to the cost of any uniform in schools.

Schools in England must have regard to this guidance when developing and implementing a new school uniform policy, or changing a current uniform policy. They must focus on ensuring that total costs for buying the uniform are affordable for families of all backgrounds, keeping branded items (eg sweatshirts, PE kit) to a minimum, and giving parents the best value for money.

It is the government's policy that the Governing Body must decide what the rules relating to pupils and their appearance should be, whether there should be a school uniform, and if there is to be a uniform, how it is sourced. The DfE does encourage schools to have a uniform for the pupils because it can:

- Instil pride in the school.
- Encourage identity with, and support for, school ethos.
- Ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome.
- Encourage good behaviour and discipline.
- Set an appropriate tone for education.
- Protect children from bullying and social or peer pressure to dress in a particular way.
- Nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils.
- Support positive behaviour and discipline. (Under section 88 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 and the Education (Independent Schools Standards) (England) Regulations 2010 there is a statutory duty to ensure that school policies promote good behaviour and discipline.)

In setting a school uniform policy the governors have consulted widely and taken into consideration issues related to:

- The cost of the uniform, assuring that uniforms for boys and girls should cost no more than each other.
- Religious requirements.
- Human rights implications.
- Equal opportunities.
- Sex, race and disability discrimination.

The governors have also considered competing opinions on the uniform in relation to the issues above.

The wearing of school uniform is part of the school's positive behaviour programme, because it encourages a sense of identity for every child to belong to the school family. We ask that parents give their full co-operation in ensuring that their child wears his/her school uniform every day.

Details of the school uniform can be found in the school prospectus and on the school's website.

Objectives and targets

The objectives of the policy are to create a school uniform that will develop an atmosphere of pride in the school and encourage amongst the pupils an identity with it and support for its ethos of good behaviour and discipline. The uniform will remove the pressures from pupils to dress in school in any way other than that stated by the school dress code.

Action plan

Riverside Primary School has endeavoured, through consultation and consideration, to devise an affordable school uniform that is as inclusive as possible, is non-discriminatory and is suitable for all pupils to wear.

When pupils are representing the school in the community, school uniform must always be worn. The headteacher will ensure pupils comply with the uniform policy agreed by the Governing Body.

Exceptional weather conditions

Parents will be advised on whether school uniform rules may be waived in exceptional weather conditions.

Purchase

Items marked with * in the list below are available from our online uniform supplier, Emblematic <https://emblematic.co.uk>

A large proportion of other items of school uniform can be purchased at retail outlets including supermarkets. Blouses/polo shirts should be worn for normal school wear and t-shirts should be worn for PE.

It is essential for parents to name all items of clothing, including footwear otherwise the school cannot be held responsible for any loss. Tracing lost property is easier when it contains a proper name.

School Uniform

- School logo purple sweatshirt or cardigan*
- White blouse or polo shirt
- Plain black or grey skirt or plain black or grey tailored school trousers.
- Plain black shoes or trainers (for outdoors)
- Plain black plimsolls for indoors (can be purchased from School Office)

PE Kit

- Plain black shorts (for PE)
- School logo white t-shirt (for PE)* *optional – plain white t-shirt can also be worn*
- Plain tracksuit/jogging bottoms/leggings for PE
- Plain trainers for outdoor PE

Lost property

A lost property box is situated in the corridor opposite the Year 3 classroom. Lost property is kept for a period of a half term and then, in the interest of the school's 're-use and recycle' procedures, suitable items will be freshly laundered and placed on our Uniform Rail (see below). Other items will be donated to a local charity shop. It is the child's responsibility to retrieve lost property from the Lost Property Box.

Uniform Exchange

We operate a 'Uniform Exchange' whereby grown out items of children's clothing can be donated to school (as long as they are in reasonable condition) and will be placed on the clothing rail in the main entrance. Donations such as shoes, coats, trousers, fleeces, polo shirts and PE shorts are always gratefully received. **Parents are free to help themselves to items.**

Reviewing

This policy will be reviewed annually taking into consideration the views of the pupils and their parents as well as the cost of the items and any legal or recommended requirements from the DfE. Next school review due: **September, 2026**