

DODFORD FIRST SCHOOL



**Achieve, Believe, Create and
Fly High**

School Uniform

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours unless advised otherwise.

Aims

Our 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 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 have 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 comfortable (extreme hairstyles – shaved designs, colouring and fashion braids, like those acquired on holiday, are not allowed)

Allow pupils to request changes to swim wear for religious reasons or if they are feeling 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 Mrs Parkes via the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to 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 our branded uniform with logos are available alongside similar clothing that can be worn without a logo.

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. Considering the availability of our items in large retail stores.

Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups. Allowing pupils to wear their own clothes 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.

Families claiming free school meals will be granted up to £100 a year to spend upon school uniform, school shoes and warm coat. Receipts of purchase will need to be seen before payment is refunded by the school.

Expectations for school uniform:

Our school's uniform:

Main and PE winter and summer uniforms can be either logo'd or plain as long as they are in the correct colours and styles that feature in the school prospectus.

Jewellery:

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are one set of earring studs in pierced ears, a watch, and small objects of religious significance (after discussion with the headteacher). We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming. Preferably, please refrain from sending your child in earrings on PE days if they cannot take them out and store them safely during these lessons. If children attend school in earrings and need to partake in PE and cannot remove them, they will need to be covered with micropore tape.

Note: staff do not put ear studs etc back in if the child cannot manage it.

Haircuts/Styling:

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Examples of this could be motifs shaved into the hair or hair being coloured. Neither should a child wear large decorative accessories in their hair, such as large headbands with flowers on nor large JoJo bows. Hair which is shoulder length or longer should be tied back for school. If your child has their hair braided whilst on holiday, they may keep the braid in their hair up to four weeks on their return to school.

Nail Varnish/Makeup/Tattoos:

The school does not permit the children to wear makeup or wear nail varnish on their finger nails and false nails are not allowed at any time. Transfer tattoos and henna tattoos should not be worn to school. Henna which is applied due to a religious ceremony is permitted.

Footwear:

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers or boots to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. If there is bad weather, the children can come to school in wellies or boots but must bring their school shoes to change into once in the school building. We require all children to wear black school shoes. We have to consider the health and safety of the children while they are in our care. Laces or Velcro are ideal as slip on shoes such as ballerina shoes can slip off and have little grip. Canvas shoes should not be worn to school as a regular school shoe as they are not waterproof and offer little support. Please choose a shoe which your child can take off and put on by themselves.

P.E./Games Lessons:

Children should wear the items listed in the school prospectus as they comply with Health and Safety guidelines. Trainers are only to be worn outside and black pumps or bare feet inside school. All jewellery needs to be removed and long hair (shoulder length or longer) needs to be tied back. Ideally a spare pair of trainers should be kept in school in the child's PE bag.

Parental Support:

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

The role of Governors:

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Where to purchase it:

Our school uniform can be purchased from Bromsgrove Schools and Sportswear for logo'd items and most supermarkets will provide uniform that meets the school requirements.

Secondhand uniform can be purchased for a donation at least twice a year via advertised dates on the school newsletter.

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 organized by the school, unless instructed to do otherwise.

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

If adjustments are needed, such as trainers due to a foot injury, then the Headteacher must be informed.

Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give reminders to parents and pupils (where appropriate) and if continuous breaches occur then the headteacher will contact the parents to see why this may be and how a resolution can be reached.

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

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

Behaviour

policy

Equality policy

Anti-bullying

policy

Complaints

policy

Policy approved by Finance Committee – June 2023

Policy review – September 2024

