

Westhouses Primary School



School Uniform Policy

Revision History

REVISION	DATE	NAME	DESCRIPTION
1.0	01.07.2023	Juliette Whitby	

Approval History

REVISION	APPROVAL DATE	APPROVED BY	SIGNED
1.0	01.07.2023	S.Taylor	

Review date: 01.07.2026

Statement of Intent

Westhouses Primary School is committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background. This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart.

Additionally, it is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging to our school. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance.

We also believe it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy also has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2013) 'School Uniform'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Home-School Agreement
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Head Teacher and school community, establishing a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Taking appropriate action when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to establish school identity.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Head Teacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Head Teacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging.

Cost and Availability

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money.

Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible.

The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms.

Where changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community. Westhouses Primary School endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible. Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Head Teacher and Governing Board. This is always conducted in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

Equality

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.

Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate.

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

Complaints and Challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

School Uniform Supplier/Our uniform

Children should wear:

- A black top and a white shirt;
- Black or dark grey shorts/trousers/skirt (not tracksuit bottoms or jeans)
- Sensible, dark shoes. (not trainers)
- Book bags are sold in the office for £5.00

P.E. Kits

PE is an important part of our curriculum. It is important that children come to school properly equipped to take part. Children should come to school in their P.E. kit on their allocated P.E. days.

Children should wear:

- A plain white T-shirt.
- Plain black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms.
- Black plimsolls for indoor and trainers for outdoor activities.

Apart from simple stud ear rings, which should be removed for PE, children should not wear jewellery or make up for school.

Black jumpers, skirts etc. can be bought from a wide variety of local shops and supermarkets. The school has also set up an option to buy online, this is now through School Trends and My Clothing. Follow the links below to buy uniform online.

Non-Compliance

On rare occasions, for example, if slogans on clothing are offensive, the Head Teacher and/or Deputy Head Teacher are permitted to ask a pupil to take off the clothing, such as a sweatshirt / jumper. In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.

On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person.

If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, for example, Forest School, parents/carers may be asked to bring the item into school.

Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform. However, in accordance with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, these should be recorded.

Labelling

School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated spaces for children to keep belongings in and checking of labels. However, all pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name.

Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school.

If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher.

Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box.