

Crofton Hammond Infant School

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY



Policy approved:	July 2023	FGB
Signed:	<i>S Hosmer</i>	Headteacher
Signed:	<i>P Hodges</i>	Chair of Governors
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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:

- 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 the 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 the Headteacher, 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.

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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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as book bags
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos 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
- 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 creating posters or labels
- 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

- We have no branded items which are required.
- We have some branded items which are optional; cardigans, jumpers, polo shirts and books bags.
- We are happy for children to wear all generic uniform items instead of branded ones.
- Expectations for PE kits in Year 1 and 2 are red shorts, plain white round necked t-shirt, plimsolls or trainers (tracksuit bottom and jumper for colder weather). PE kits should be brought into school in a named drawstring style bag.
- Expectations for jewellery is that children shouldn't wear jewellery into school but if they do this needs to be removed for PE, including earrings.
- Expectations for long hair is that it is tied back when children are in school either in uniform or on no-uniform days.

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- Expectations for school bags is that all children use a book bag not a rucksack due to storage space in classrooms.
- Expectations for footwear is that children wear black shoes, with socks. Shoes should be able to be fastened, no slip on shoes. Sandals or open toed shoes are not permitted either in uniform or on non-uniform days.
- Expectations for coats is that children have outwear with them which suits the weather for that day, for example a warm coat when it's cold and a waterproof one when it's wet.
- Expectations for hats is that children have a hat in school for the summer term to wear when they are working or playing outside.
- Year R will require a set of waterproofs and wellington boots to be left in school.
- Full details of our school uniform requirements are available on our [website](#).

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Branded uniform items are available from Marks and Spencer online and Skoolkit in Fareham. None branded uniform items are widely available from supermarkets and other high-street retailers.
- Our CHIPS team often hold second hand uniform sales and details of these are found on their page of our [website](#)

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are requested to wear the 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 (as required)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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 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.

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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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will monitor pupils to make sure they are in suitable uniform. They will liaise with families in instances of poor standard of clothing to offer support following up with the Headteacher.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil being unable to wear suitable clothing, 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 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 every 3 years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Resources Committee and then the Full Governing Body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Complaints policy