

# Coit Primary School Uniform Policy



Approved by: [Alison Warner] ]

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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 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 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing 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 Head of School or the Executive Head, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

### 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

**School will continue to review the following factors to support**

- The socio-economic status of your school community

- › Pupil demographics
- › Uniform of neighbouring schools or schools in the locality
- › 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. (19<sup>th</sup> November 2021)**

**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 and/or long-lasting items
- › 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 leveller
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- › Considering alternative methods for signalling 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

#### Top

- Red or navy sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan
- Red, navy or white polo shirt/T shirt/blouse

#### Bottom

- Black or grey trousers/skirt/jogging bottoms

#### Swimming kit

- Girls-Beach Ready-swimming costume or tankini
- Boys-trunks or short swimming shorts

## **PE Kit**

### **Indoor PE kit**

- White T-Shirt or polo top with navy blue or black shorts, games skirt or leotard

### **Outdoor PE kit**

- Dark grey/black Tracksuit bottoms, and trainers. (football kits are not needed) Warm top.

## **Jewellery and Hairstyles**

(taking into account the requirement described above to avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010)

- Hair should be tied up and needs to be tied up in any event for PE
- Hairstyles should be free from the extremes of fashion
- Watches only (not smart watches) are allowed. No other jewelry is necessary.

## **Shoes, bags and coats**

- Sensible shoes no flip flops /wedges/brightly coloured trainers/sandals/peep toes. Indoor plimsolls are desirable
- Warm, waterproof coats for the winter, boots/wellingtons for when it shows
- Bags-small bag/reading book bag

## **4.2 Where to purchase it**

- parents and carers can obtain the uniform, from the school suppliers via Logo leisure wear if they prefer to buy a jumper/coat with a logo or from a range of other retailers for non -logo uniform jumpers/coats
- Information about second-hand uniform, for example:
- School will have termly uniform exchange schemes, and information will be shared in the weekly newsletter as to how/when this will happen
- School does hold a small stock of good quality secondhand uniform which is available on request -please speak to Mrs Short /Mrs Hofman

## **5. Expectations for our school community**

### **5.1 Pupils**

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (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 [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 [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.

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 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 [SLT @ Coit: Mrs Rodrigo and Mrs. Eagleton]

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 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 annually or as necessary.].

At every review, it will be approved by [the full governing board).

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

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

