



**Jacksdale Primary School & Nursery**

# **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

Reviewed: October 2024

Next review due: October 2026

Jacksdale Primary & Nursery School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

## **Roles and responsibilities**

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's ['Cost of school uniforms'](#) guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher 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 headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.

- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

## **1. Cost principles**

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school will ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings, by not altering the uniform expectations without consultation.

The school does not require pupils to wear branded uniform items, though branded options, such as jumpers, cardigans and polo shirts are available to order online at [www.myclothing.com](http://www.myclothing.com) if this is the parent / carer preference. The range in cost of these items are as follows (as of October 2022):

Branded polo shirt - £6.80

Branded sweatshirt – navy blue - £10.30

Branded scallop edge or straight edge cotton cardigan - £11.50

Branded fleece – navy blue - £13.50

Branded microfleece lined jacket – navy - £15.50

Branded reversible fleece jacket – navy - £22.00

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. Non-branded uniform items may be purchased from a range of retailers, not prescribed by school.

## **Equality principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are equal in price (for branded, unisex items from [www.myclothing](http://www.myclothing.com))

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression in line with the LGBTQ+ Policy.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

## **Complaints and challenges**

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

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

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents 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.

The school holds second-hand school uniforms for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the headteacher. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

## **Non-compliance**

The headteacher, or a staff member, is permitted to ask a parent / carer to ensure that children are wearing correct uniform as outlined in this policy. Staff are also able to talk to children directly to direct them / remind them of school uniform expectations.

## **School uniform**

### **School colours**

Our school colours are as follows:

#### **Navy blue & white**

The school uniform consists of the following items:

- White polo shirt
- Navy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
- Grey / black trousers / shorts / skirts
- Black school shoes (non-heeled, not branded trainers)

The school P.E. uniform consists of the following items:

- Plain white non-branded t-shirt
- Navy / black shorts and/or jogging bottoms (weather dependent)
- Trainers
- Navy hooded top (preferably zipped for children's comfort and ease)

Following feedback from parents, post-covid, we have directed that children should wear PE uniform on the days their class have PE lessons. This will reduce the cost and requirement for additional uniform items and laundering.

### **Jewellery**

Permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.
- A smart and sensible wrist watch.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and swimming lessons.

## **Makeup**

No makeup should be worn by pupils.

## **Adverse weather**

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing during adverse weather (heatwaves or extreme cold / wet weather).

## **Labelling**

All pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name. Our children often remove items of clothing i.e. jumpers / cardigans during the school day and this may be in a shared area, such as the hall, corridor or playground. It is not possible to return items of clothing based on the age / brand / visual check if no names are included and this cause pupils to become distressed, as well as having a financial cost for parents / carers.

Any lost clothing is be taken to the lost property box.. All lost property is retained for half a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.