

# **HIGH LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

## School Uniform Policy

Date policy was agreed with Governors	Autumn 2022
Review Date	Autumn 2025 (or earlier if necessary)
Person(s) Responsible	A Humphries

At High Lane Primary School, we value every child as an individual and believe it is important for all children to reach their full potential in a happy, supportive and exciting environment. We seek to develop independent learners who are equipped with the necessary skills, knowledge and understanding to thrive within an ever-changing world. We seek excellence and enjoyment in everything we do.

## 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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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:

- Allow 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.

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
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats 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 groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities, unless the school is able to provide some for pupils' use
- 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

Children from Year R-6 should wear full school uniform as outlined below on all days where they do not have a PE lesson. Uniform is optional for Nursery pupils.

#### Uniform

grey skirt or trousers (shorts in Summer – optional) school sweatshirt / cardigan (with Logo or plain red) white polo shirt (with/without Logo) grey/white socks black school shoes (no trainers) dresses - red gingham for Summer (optional)

New branded uniform can be purchased through the school, using ParentPay. Branded uniform (with Logo) is optional. Non-branded uniform can be purchased at reasonable cost from a wide range of retailers. Good quality pre-loved uniform can also be purchased through the PTFA at a significantly reduced cost.

#### Jewellery

Stud earrings only may be worn. These must be removed for all PE activities (adaptations may be allowed within the first 6 weeks after the ears are pierced). A basic watch may be worn at school, this must not have internet connection capability. Other jewellery should not be worn in school.

Long hair must be tied back

#### **PE and Games**

Following the success of adapting our uniform on PE days during the pandemic, we have introduced a simple PE day uniform. On PE days only, children should come to school in a simple adapted uniform of:

PE Uniform: school sweatshirt/cardigan (or plain red) white or red polo/t shirt black or grey joggers, tracksuit bottoms or leggings (black shorts can be worn on hot days) Trainers

# PLEASE NOTE, THE PE VARIATION IS PART OF SCHOOL UNIFORM FOR PE DAYS. OTHER COLOURS/ACTIVE WEAR SHOULD NOT BE WORN FOR SCHOOL.

## 5. Expectations for our school community

#### 5.1 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 organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if 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.

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.

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.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Steering Committee.

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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