North Mundham Primary School School Uniform Policy



Approved by: Resources Date: 13.5.24

Committee

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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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher, 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

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory <u>quidance</u> from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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.
- > 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 years
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- > Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- > Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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

- All pupils must wear a dark green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan- either school branded or plain and nonbranded.
- All pupils must wear a white shirt with a collar- these can be short or long sleeved and school branded or plain.
- > Pupils must wear black or dark grey trousers, skirts, shorts or culottes or dresses (not leggings) or a green and white gingham dress.
- > Pupils must wear black, grey or white socks or tights.
- > Pupils must wear black shoes or short ankle books. A trainer style shoe that is all black (including soles) with no logo is acceptable.
- > Pupils can also wear a green school branded fleece or coat, a green branded school cap
- > We encourage pupils in Yrs 1-3 to have a green branded bookbag
- > Pupils will also need a coat, wellies and sunhat-these can be generic makes (no offensive logos).
- > Pupils can bring a rucksack to school- these can be generic (no offensive logos)
- > Pupils are also encouraged to have full waterproof clothing in school as we use our outside area in all weathers.
- > For Forest School, pupils can wear generic clothing but trousers must be long and they must have suitable footwear (depending on time of year) and coats should be waterproof and not too bulky.
- > For PE pupils must wear a white T-shirt (either school branded or plain white), dark green or black shorts or dark green or black tracksuit trousers/leggings (with no logo or branding). Trainers for PE can be generic.
- ➤ No jewellery must be worn to school except a small wrist watch (not Smart watch) and small stud earrings. Watches must be removed for PE and earrings covered or removed.
- > Hair that is below the nape of the child's neck must be worn all tied back.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Add details including:

- ➤ Branded items (jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts, PE shirts, green shorts and book bags) are available from Game, Set and Match, Chichester: https://www.gsam.co.uk/collections/north-mundham-primary-school
- Unit 1, Beaver Trade Park, Quarry Lane, Chichester, West Sussex, PO19 8NY

Our PTA has a selection of pre-worn uniform that is available on request as well as at our regular pre-worn uniform sales.

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/carers 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/carers 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:

> Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers 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 the Headteacher or the Deputy Headteacher.

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/carers 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 the Headteacher every 3 years At every review, it will be approved by the Resources committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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