



Hexham First School

School Uniform Policy

June 2022

This policy has been written with regards the statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms from the Department for Education

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>

Date written: July 2022 **Review period :** July 2024

Statutory Policy approved by: strategic policy and direction committee.

Introduction

We encourage all children at Hexham First to wear a school uniform. We believe it is more economical for parents and gives children a sense of belonging and pride.

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

Hexham First 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, Hexham First School will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all children the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in and they prefer
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all children
- Allow all children to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all children to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable, however avoiding 'extreme hairstyles'
- Allow children to request changes to uniform for religious reasons
- Allow children to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking children or their parents / carers to get in touch with the School Office who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

Hexham First 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' / carers' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost from a range of places, and this will be well signposted to families
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Carrying out annual costs comparisons with uniform providers to ensure we are providing Value for Money and excellent quality items from our official uniform provider
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics, such as a school logo to jumpers, t-shirts
- Providing a free Hexham First School school bag for all new starters
- Providing an option of uniform without the school logo from the registered supplier
- Signposting parents to supermarkets or lower cost uniform sellers for items without logos that can also be worn in the same school colours (Royal Blue)
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Providing outdoor shower suits and wellington boots for EYFS children's outdoor play
- Provide options to purchase second hand heavily discounted high quality school uniform through the PTA on a regular basis
- Signpost to local 'Rosie's Corner' Kid's Bank for more available second-hand uniform
- Promote the environmental and ethical benefits of reusing and recycling uniform and make it a common place practice via the school Eco Council
- Recall all Y4 leavers PE bags and swim bags and hand down to lower year group to recycle and reuse
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on families of any changes
- Consulting with parents / carers and children on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

Expectations for School Uniform

Through our uniform we emphasise being part of a whole school family. It comprises of the following:

EVERYDAY SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Grey / black trousers / pinafore / skirt (not leggings, jeggings)
- royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with or without school logo
- white polo shirt or blouse
- In warm weather, children are encouraged to wear grey shorts or blue checked dress for summer
- White, black or grey socks/tights
- Practical plain black flat school type shoes / trainers or flat sandals in summer. Sling back, flip flops, mules, heeled shoes, slip-on sandals, crocs are not appropriate.
- We recommend that your child wears a coat to school in 'most weathers'. As our climate is quite changeable they often need a coat to warm them at break times.

PE KIT - indoor

- black or blue shorts
- Plain white T shirt - with or without school logo

PE KIT - outdoor

- plain jogging bottoms (dark colours are practical)
- trainers are required for all outdoor games.

Sports clothes carrying logos; the football strips of various teams and designer sportswear is not allowed to be worn in school at any time.

KS2 SWIMMING

- Swim trunks to be worn, no swim shorts
- One piece swimsuits, no two piece suits

Finally we respectfully request that extreme haircuts or hairstyles are avoided please. During term time pupils are asked not to have extreme fashion hairstyles for example: dyed or streaked hair or mohawks ect.

Jewellery, apart from a watch, must not be worn in school. Earrings must be removed for school for safety reasons. If your child does have their ears pierced, we recommend they wear small clear plastic retainers. No responsibility is accepted for the safekeeping of any jewellery, the care of such items remains totally with the owner. If you intend your child to have a piercings carried out, then it would be appropriate for this to be done at the beginning of the summer holiday, when the six

week period would allow the pierced body part to settle down before returning to school.

Where to Purchase Uniform

- Our uniform supplier is Salto – click on the link below for information on items for sale and to purchase uniform.

https://www.saltouk.com/index.php?route=product/category&path=59_185

- Hexham First School also recycles and resells school uniform in good condition via the PTA. We will hold regular second hand uniform sales where we will provide an honesty box / pay as you feel option
- Second hand clothing can also be obtained for the local children's clothes bank 'Rosie's Corner', contactable on 07593 599157 or at rosiescorner.org.uk
- Uniform without logos can be purchased from supermarkets and other large high street clothes shops

Expectations for our school community

Children

Children 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)
- On school trips, children will be provided with high visibility clothing

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 (including coats)
- In good condition

Please contact the school if you have any difficulty providing uniform for your child, we may be able to help. Parents / carers are also encouraged to contact the School Office if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy.

Governors

The strategic policy and direction committee 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 families and children
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all children

The strategic policy and direction committee 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 retendering contracts at least every 5 years.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the strategic policy and direction committee.