



HYTHE BAY
Church of England
Primary School

School Uniform Policy

Signed	Designation	Date
	Headteacher	
	Chair of Governors	

Anchored by God, we strive to teach children to be confident, connected, and creative through outstanding teaching and care. We show our love, tolerance, forgiveness, and compassion, not just by talking about them but living them each day of our lives.

"We should love people not only with words and talk but by actions and true caring."

1 John 3: 18

Our vision is to be a Spirit- filled community where every individual flourishes and is respected.

Our Christian values allow us to be an inclusive school which, through our learning, strives to give everyone life in all its fullness.

Within our local and global culture of continuous learning and reflection, we aim to deliver a broad and ambitious curriculum to all children in our care.

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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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 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 Rebecca Prout, 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 for example, by only asking that the jumper, worn over the polo shirt, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling 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

School uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of the school and sets an appropriate tone. It instils pride, supports positive behaviour and discipline, and encourages identity with the school. Uniform can also be useful to protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way. The school seeks to promote a spirit of identity and community cohesion through the wearing of a uniform that is affordable and widely available.

We are pleased to advise you that embroidered (school crest) school uniform is available from PMG Schoolwear and Myclothing online. They both provide an online ordering system for parents /carers which can be accessed via the school website <https://www.hythebay.kent.sch.uk/uniform> or directly at:

www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk or www.myclothing.com

Alternatively, Sainsbury's in Hythe do a range of burgundy/blue uniform that is non-embroidered. Please ensure ALL clothing is clearly labelled with your child's name. We have a wide selection of hardly used second hand uniform – please ask at the school office.

Our colours are burgundy, sky blue and grey and the uniform can be selected from:

Burgundy sweatshirt with or without school crest
Sky blue polo shirt with or without crest
Burgundy sweat cardigan
Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
Blue gingham dress for the summer
Black shoes, black trainers or substantial sandals

PE Kit:

Sky blue PE t-shirt
Burgundy PE shorts
Black plimsolls

Optional Items:

Burgundy book bag with school crest or rucksack with crest
Burgundy PE bag with crest
Blue pack-a-mac
Burgundy fleece and/or reversible jacket with school crest

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 Rebecca Prout, 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 Rebecca Prout, 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 Rebecca Prout, 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 Body 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 by Rebecca Prout, Headteacher. 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

Approved by the Resources Committee on Monday 21st October 2024.