



Toft Hill Primary School Uniform Policy

Approved by:

Governing Body –
Finance Committee

Date: October 2024

Last reviewed on:

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Next review due by:

September 2025

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 Mrs Nesbitt or Mr Dickinson, 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 and is keen 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 those with our school logo, 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 the distinctive characteristics are necessary and limiting the number of items with such characteristics
- › 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/house 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

4.1 Our school's uniform

- › Red jumper (Jumpers with the school logo can be purchased from the school office. Alternatively, a plain red school jumper can be purchased from a range of local retailers at a reasonable price.)
- › Jade green polo shirt (T-shirts with the school logo can be purchased from the school office. Alternatively, a plain red school jumper can be purchased from a range of local retailers at a reasonable price.)
- › Black or grey trouser
- › Black or grey skirt
- › Red or jade green checked dress

Footwear - Shoes should be flat, preferably black and appropriate for school. If trainers are worn these should also preferably be plain black. Children should be able to fasten their own shoes so please use Velcro fastenings if your child is unable to fasten their own shoe laces. Please do not send your child to school in shoes which prevent them from running in the playground. If boots are worn these also should be plain black. Children who wear boots that prevent them from sitting comfortably on the floor may be asked to wear their PE shoes whilst inside the building. For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels.

- › Coats should be durable and appropriate for the weather. (Coats, with the school logo, are also available for order from the school office should you wish.)
- › Bags – your child will be provided with a red school bag on starting school. (Replacements can be purchased from the school office if needed. Otherwise an alternative bag of a similar size/ shape can be used.)
- › Embellishments -The school must ensure that children's appearance in school is age appropriate. It is also important that children learn the distinction between school, a place of work, and less formal events such as parties. Therefore, children should not have brightly coloured dyed hair, painted finger nails, false nails, false eyelashes or make up. Even on non-uniform days, it is essential that clothing and footwear is appropriate.

4.2 PE Uniform

- › Red or black shorts
- › White T-shirt (T-shirts should be full length. Pupils should not wear cropped tops.)
- › Black trousers/ leggings
- › Suitable footwear for indoor/ outdoor PE sessions (eg. PE pumps, trainers) Children should be able to fasten their own shoes so please use Velcro fastenings if your child is unable to fasten their own shoe laces.

Spare PE kit, in keeping with the PE uniform, will be kept in school and provided to pupils not bringing their kit or wearing the correct PE uniform.

4.3 Where to purchase uniform

- Uniform with the school logo can be purchased from the school office. Order forms can be found on the school website or in the office. Alternatively, all items on our school uniform list can be purchased, without logos, at a reasonable price from a number of local retailers.
- Full PE kits including a bag, T shirt with school logo, shorts (excluding footwear) can be ordered from the school office. Alternatively, items can be purchased separately at a reasonable price from a range of local retailers.
- Re-use and recycle:
 - We actively encourage parents to re-use and recycle uniform. We hold a stock of good quality used uniform in a range of sizes within school. We make this available at a number of points in the year. Alternatively, please ask at the office as and when you require replacements.

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 Mrs Nesbitt or Mr Dickinson 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
- Appropriate for the activity/ weather

Parents are also expected to contact Mrs Nesbitt or Mr Dickinson 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 the 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 body 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 the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Behaviour policy
- › Jewellery policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Anti-bullying policy
- › Complaints policy