

Folksworth Church of England (VC) Primary School

School Uniform Policy



Inspiring a love of learning through
the bonds of **family, faith and friendship.**

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'A cord of three strands is not easily broken.' Ecclesiastes 4:12

Our Christian values of community, compassion, friendship, courage, hope and thankfulness are an integral part of daily life.

We believe that all people are unique and of equal worth. As part of God's family everyone is nurtured, valued and respected. We provide a safe community where we give everyone the fullest opportunity to be the very best they can be.

(School vision statement)

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 all 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: age, sex, sexual orientation, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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
- 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 [guidance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost

- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 items.
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible for example, by only asking that the knitted jumper or cardigan worn over a polo shirt, features the school logo
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory 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 such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- 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 uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

School Uniform

Please find below the uniform expectations for our school. At Folksworth we believe that the wearing of school uniform is important for a number of reasons:-

- It gives the children a sense of belonging to the school community;
- It should engender pride;
- It offers each child the chance to come to school without the pressure of competition among peers to be the best dressed or to have the latest hair fashion;
- It is the safest and most suitable clothing for the activities of the school day;
- It fosters the work ethic of the school.

Please ensure that all uniform is named.

Navy blue embroidered Folksworth knitted jumper or cardigan (not plain)

- White polo shirt (plain or with embroidered Folksworth logo optional)
- Grey skirt or pinafore (roughly knee length), grey trousers or grey shorts.

- Optional navy blue/white check summer dress
- Grey or white socks or tights
- (Black school shoes (no trainers or heels)

Note: Long hair should be tied back. Large or brightly coloured hair accessories should not be worn.

PE Kit

Indoor Kit:

- Sky blue sports shirt with the Folksworth logo
- Navy shorts

Note: Footwear is not worn for indoor P.E.

Outdoor Kit:

- Sky blue sports shirt with the Folksworth logo
- Navy shorts (summer)
- Navy jogging bottoms (winter)
- Navy hoodie embroidered with the Folksworth logo (winter)
- Plimsolls or trainers (older children will need trainers)

Jewellery

The wearing of jewellery in school presents a number of difficulties in terms of health and safety, peer pressure and security. The only jewellery that may be worn are simple stud earrings in pierced ears. Please note that these will need to be removed for P.E. and games lessons. If your child is able to read the time, he/she may wear a basic watch to school – again, these will need to be removed for P.E. or games.

Timetabled PE days will be shared with each class at the start of the year. PE kit may be worn all day on PE days.

Essential Items			
1  Knitted Jumper or Cardigan	2  PE Top	3  PE Hoodie	
Optional Items			
1  Polo Shirt	2  Outdoor Fleece	3  Cap	4  Bookbag

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

- Parents and carers can buy the branded school uniform items from Total Clothing <https://www.totalclothing.co.uk/collections/folksworth-c-of-e-primary-school>. All other items can be sourced by parents from a range of high-street retailers.
- Unwanted branded items of uniform are collected by Folksworth Friends and can be accessed by contacting the School Office. These items are available free of charge.

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 in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/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 in line with our school's behaviour policy.

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

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. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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