

School uniform policy

Town Lane Infant School



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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 wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking parents to get in touch with school (schooloffice@townlane-infant.wirral.svh.uk) so we 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 can 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

We will do this by:

- Allowing children to wear jumpers and polo shirts that do not contain the school logo however they must be royal blue in colour. We believe these are available in a low-cost option
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities other than PE
- 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

Winter

Pale blue/white shirt or polo shirt

Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan which can have the school emblem on

Mid-grey pinafore/skirt/trousers

White/grey/black socks

Shoes should be flat and black or grey (no trainers)

During cold/wet periods children wearing boots to school should have a change of footwear ready to put on once entering school

Summer

Sun hats are essential

Mid-grey school shorts/trousers/skirt

White polo shirt which can have the school emblem

Pale blue and white dress –any pattern, any style suitable for school

White 'T' shirt which can have the school emblem on.

White/grey/black socks

Shoes should be flat and black or grey (no trainers)

Closed toe, flat sandals can be worn in hot weather

4.2 Our school's PE uniform

Plain white t-shirt
Blue/black shorts
Blue/Black joggers (outdoors)
Blue/black zipped top (outdoors)
Black elasticised pumps

Children may wear trainers for outside PE lessons but this footwear is not appropriate for our indoor sessions. It is advisable for children to have velcro fastening for trainers if children are unable to fasten laces.

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is clean, in good condition and clearly labelled with the child's name.

Jewellery

The wearing of jewellery including earrings and earring studs **is not permitted** on safety grounds during physical education lessons or other sporting activities (e.g. after school activities). This will ensure that our pupils have the safest experience in their PE lessons. This decision is based on National Guidance issued by the Association for Physical Education (AfPE) and has the best interests of our pupils at heart. The guidance states:

"Schools have a duty of care to ensure students are able to participate actively without unnecessarily endangering themselves or those working around them. A clear and consistently applied policy for the removal of personal effects should be in place. The Association for Physical Education (AfPE) strongly recommends the practice of removing all personal effects at the commencement of every lesson to establish a safe working environment. This applies to all ear and body piercings, including retainer and expander earrings."

It is recommended by school not to wear earrings at all during the school day as there are many physical activities throughout the week.

Additional Information

Water Bottles

All children have access to fresh, clean drinking water in school and are also encouraged to bring in a named or easily identifiable water bottle. This must only contain plain, unflavoured water. As a health promoting school, this means children are not drinking sugary /flavoured drinks which contribute to many preventable health conditions.

Nail varnish

The wearing of nail varnish is prohibited

Hair

For PE and Forest school sessions, long hair must be tied back.

It is strongly encouraged that our young children have hair tied back at all times due to the nature of our exploratory, play based provision.

Book bags

All children are strongly encouraged to use a blue book bag for school because we cannot accommodate large bags on our school pegs.

4.3 Where to purchase it

School uniform can be obtained from www.mandsyourschooluniform.com

It is also available from a local company called The Other Uniform Store based in The Courtyard, Brimstage Hall, Brimstage Rd, Wirral, CH63 6JA - Telephone 0151 348 4041.

All uniform must be clearly marked with the child's name.

Second hand uniform can be obtained from school

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 Large 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 Mrs Large 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 Local Academy Board:

The LAB 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually.