

# Stoke By Nayland C of E Primary School



## School uniform policy

Prepared by:	<i>PSHE Lead/Headteacher</i>
Approved by:	<i>(Local Governing Body/Committee)</i>
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## **Introduction:**

At Stoke By Nayland C of E Primary School it is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours. We ask children to wear their polo-shirts/ shirts tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take a pride in their personal appearance. School uniform is a way of showing that the children are ready to learn in line with our school ethos. Some items of uniform can be bought with the Stoke By Nayland C of E Primary School logo on, whilst other plain items are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform, including those for P.E. and Outdoor Learning, is included in this policy. "We believe that the wearing of a school uniform enables students to identify with their school, gives a sense of belonging, is practical and smart, reinforces a positive work ethos and reduces expenditure for parents/carers".

## **Vision:**

As a church school our school vision is deeply rooted in Christian narrative, the story of the Good Shepherd (John 10) and the Parable of The Lost Sheep (Luke 15, Matthew 18). The story encapsulates perfectly what we think is special about our school – just as the Shepherd gives his all to secure the safety of every last sheep and helps them to thrive, so our staff give their all to create a safe and loving environment for every child so that they can be the best that they can be. We prepare our children to go out into the world equipped with everything that is good for the good of all. We are an inclusive school, welcoming all children with respect, understanding and dignity. We have a duty of care to the children and will demonstrate the compassion and understanding that allows all children and adults within our school family and local community to flourish. In the context of this policy, this means that we aim to provide a safe and secure environment, in which children develop their self-esteem and respect for themselves and others. It also means that we endeavour to provide children with the knowledge and skills they need to keep themselves safe. We recognise the moral and statutory responsibility placed on all staff to safeguard and promote the welfare of all children.

## **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 age, sex, 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 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 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 related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- > 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 to get in touch with Mrs McGrath - [admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk](mailto:admin@sbn.suffolk.sch.uk) 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 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
  - > Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items

- > 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 leveller
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- > Considering alternative methods for signalling 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**

#### **Main School Uniform**

Grey or black trousers or skirts or shorts

A white or royal blue polo shirt (with or without the school logo)

Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without the school logo)

Mid- blue checked or striped summer dress

Shoes should be black shoes and **not** boots

#### **PE Kit**

Royal blue shorts

White round necked t-shirt (with or without the school logo)

Trainers

Navy or black tracksuit/jogging trousers for the colder months

#### **Outdoor Learning**

Waterproof Coat and Trousers or an all in one waterproof suit

Wellies

### **Swimming kit (KS2 only)**

Swimming hat

Swimming costume or trunks (no baggy shorts allowed)

### **Jewelry**

No necklaces or bracelets of any description to be worn for safety reasons

Earrings must be removed for any PE lessons and whilst using the aeroball equipment.

## **4.2 Where to purchase it**

Polo shirts, Jumpers and cardigans and PE tops with the school logo can be purchased from the school office ( we do hold some stock) all other items can easily be purchased from local shops an retailers.

## **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 McGrath 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 McGrath 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**

- > Will be the first point of contact for any concerns over uniform
- > Will support families to ensure their children are dressed safely and appropriately for school

### **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 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 the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by full governing body.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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