

Uniform Policy



North Scarle Primary School

‘Choosing to be Successful’

Approved by:	Full Governing Body	Date: October 2024
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Our School Vision

As an **inclusive** primary school, we work towards unlocking the potential of ALL our children, regardless of their starting points and perceived limits, so they can be happy and become the most **successful** version of themselves.

We aim to achieve this by providing a safe, nurturing and **inspiring** learning environment that supports our children both physically and emotionally.

Our successes are built on shared values and high expectations, provided by an aspirational and **enriched** curriculum and a supportive community.

“Success is not the key to happiness. Happiness is the key to success. If you love what you are doing, you will be successful.” (Herman Cain)

Our School Values



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Introduction

We believe that school uniform helps to promote a sense of belonging and pride in our school. We have deliberately made it simple and cost effective so that all children will wear it. It is also school policy that children wear uniform when participating in school organised events outside of normal hours (unless otherwise stated).

Aims and objectives

Our policy for school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Is practical and smart
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and is considered by parents as good value for money
- Is designed with health and safety in mind

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

North Scarle Primary School uniform consists of:

- Blue school jumper/cardigan (preferably with logo)
- Mid-grey/black skirt, pinafore, shorts or trousers
- White/blue polo t-shirt
- Plain white, grey or black socks/tights
- Black sensible shoes – some fashions particularly those with high soles / heels are dangerous and might easily cause injury when playing in the playground
- A spare pair of shoes are required during the winter months/wet play days. Children may either bring a spare pair of outdoor shoes to change into at lunch and playtime breaks or may bring an indoor shoe such as a pair of plimsolls (clogs and slippers are not permitted)

Jumpers/Cardigans are available online from Uniform Direct. All other items can be purchased from supermarkets/local shops.

For PE and Games

- A plain white or blue t-shirt
- Black shorts/leggings or jogging bottoms
- Trainers
- Black or blue hoodie/jumper (outdoor PE)

For Swimming

- Children require a swimming costume and towel
- Girls must wear a one-piece costume and boys should wear trunks not swim shorts.

Footwear

Children should wear black sensible shoes that maintain the smart appearance of the uniform. Some fashions, particularly those with high heels/soles are dangerous and might easily cause injury when playing in the playground. A spare pair of shoes are required during the winter months/wet play days. Children may either bring a spare pair of outdoor shoes to change into at lunch and playtime breaks or may bring an indoor shoe such as a pair of plimsolls (crocs and slippers are not permitted)

Lost Property

Pupils are responsible for their own personal possessions whilst in school. Children should not bring toys unless asked to do so for a particular reason. It is imperative that all items of clothing brought into school are clearly labelled. Items that are received into lost property that are not labelled will be disposed of each half term.

Makeup and Jewellery

In the interests of safety, children should not wear jewellery, other than sensible watches and small stud earrings (no costume jewellery) if ears are pierced. These must be removed for all PE activities including swimming. No makeup/transfer tattoos/hair colourants or nail varnish are to be worn.

The Role of Governors

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.

The Role of Parents/Carers

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

The Role of Pupils

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.

- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g., school identity and community.

The Role of the Headteacher

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g., for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

The Role of Staff members:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g., school identity.

Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
- LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g., year group specific items or house colours, to a minimum where possible to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Where the school decides to require an item of branded clothing, it will conduct an assessment to ensure prices are kept as low as possible.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school works with a local uniform supplier and ensures that the majority of the school uniform can be purchased from multiple supermarkets and local shops to obtain the best value for money possible.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in section 3.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.

Have SEND and/or sensory needs.

- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records.

Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g., by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

Secondhand sales of uniform

In order to assist parents with the cost of uniforms, sales of secondhand uniforms are held at the school. Access to uniforms outside of the sales time is available upon request to the School Administrator. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer require it.