

# South Petherton Junior School

## School Uniform Policy

### Rationale

- 1 We believe that children should look smart when at school and feel proud to wear their uniform.
- 2 School uniform must be of reasonable cost and offer best value for money for parents and carers

### Aim

- 1 To avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- 2 To clarify our expectations for school uniform.

### Guiding principles

#### 1)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 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 Walker, Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

#### 2)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 therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics eg only using a sweatshirt/cardigan & PE shirt with the school logo
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

#### 3)Expectations for school uniform

Our school uniform is as follows:

Uniform	Required	Optional
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bottle green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan</li></ul>	✓	School Logo
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Grey or black trousers, knee length skirt, tailored shorts/culottes, pinafore dress/ green &amp; white checked dress</li></ul>	✓	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plain White Shirt/blouse/Polo shirt with collar</li> <li>• Bottle green fleece / waterproof jacket</li> <li>• Sensible &amp; appropriate school shoes – no trainers / high-heeled or ‘Ugg’ style boots / flip flops</li> <li>• White/black/grey socks or tights</li> </ul>	✓   ✓  ✓	School Logo  ✓
<b>PE Kit</b>		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Black &amp; plain shorts/skorts (skirt/shorts)/ tracksuit bottoms or leggings</li> <li>• Plain yellow T-shirt with school logo</li> <li>• Trainers – no plimsolls /daps please as these are not suitable for outdoor activity</li> <li>• Bottle green hooded sweatshirt</li> <li>• Swimming costume – no bikinis</li> </ul>	✓  ✓  ✓  ✓	✓

#### Other expectations eg. bags / jewellery & hairstyles:

- PE kit will be stored in a **named bag** (Nb:Optional green drawstring bag with school logo is available)
- Appropriate sized school bag (Nb:this needs to be stored within the class cloakroom so cannot be too large)
- No jewellery – this includes rubber wrist bands (If ears are pierced, studs are the safest and only option)
- No nail varnish, make-up or temporary skin tattoos (We reserve the right to remove nail varnish if children fail to remove it after reminders)
- Hair must be tied up where the length is longer than the shoulder
- Hair accessories must be plain (black or green), minimal and non-decorative eg. no head bands with large flowers or bows
- A sun hat may be worn for hot weather (Nb.Optional green baseball cap with school logo is available)

#### 4) Where to purchase it

The majority can be bought from most ‘high-street’ retailers. Uniform with school logo may be purchased from the ‘**South West Schoolwear**’ shop in Yeovil:

**Website:** [www.swschoolwear.co.uk](http://www.swschoolwear.co.uk)

**Email:** [yeovil@swschoolwear.co.uk](mailto:yeovil@swschoolwear.co.uk)

**Phone:** 01935 478178

The school also holds a stock of **second-hand uniform** – please contact the school if you are interested in purchasing for a small donation to the school funds.

#### 5) Expectations for our school community

**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)

**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 - either in permanent pen on the label or with a sewn-in name label
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Mrs Walker, 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

**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. 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.

**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 and approved every 2 years by the Full Governing Body.