

# Oak Meadow Primary School

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## Uniform Policy

*From tiny acorns mighty oaks grow.*

Approval Date:	September 2022
Signature:	
Date for Review:	September 2025

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### **Policy Revisions:**

Page 3: A 'Foreword' has been included which references the Government's requests for schools to undertake a uniform review.

Page 3 Para 1: Reference to the importance of uniform being easily accessible has been added.

Page 3: Within the aims and objectives (bullet point 4), reference has been added to uniform affordability.

Page 3 and 4: Within 'Our Uniform, the former winter uniform for boys and girls has been removed with additional wording 'branded or unbranded' added to the polo shirts and cardigans or jumpers.

Page 4: Within the swimming kit statement, the non-permitted use of aerosol deodorants and hairspray have been added for health and safety reasons.

Page 4: Within the PE kit list, black or grey jogging trousers and sweat top has been added for children to wear during cooler periods of the school year.

## **Foreword:**

In adherence with Government guidelines: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform/school-uniforms> and <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>, a review has been undertaken of the school's uniform policy and parents'/ carers' views have been sought via a questionnaire regarding:

1. Rules around appearance;
2. Whether there should be a school uniform policy and if so, what it should be;
3. How the uniform can be sourced;
4. The environmental benefits of the uniform;
5. Cost considerations;
6. Human rights, equality and discrimination considerations, i.e. sex, religion or belief, race (including colour, nationality, ethnic or national origin), disability and gender reassignment.

Throughout the review process and engagement with parents and carers, Governors have maintained their focus and commitment to maintaining the ethos of the school, its sense of belonging and identify and purpose of setting an appropriate tone for education.

## **Introduction**

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school event outside normal school hours. It is important that our children feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart, practical uniform which is easily accessible. We believe a uniform allows all children, regardless of background, gender and transgender, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by wearing appropriate clothing within such activities as PE/ sporting lessons and activities.

We expect a consistency in our school uniform and ask parents and carers to support us in ensuring a full adherence to our uniform policy. We respectfully request also that before purchasing any item that is not specifically listed, you check with school to ensure its suitability.

## **Aims and Objectives**

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

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- Supports positive behaviour and discipline;
- Is practical, affordable and smart;
- Encourages identity with the school;
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers;
- Prevents children coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition;
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind.
- Promotes an adherence to a uniform policy supporting transition to secondary school and their uniform policies and expectations.

## **Our School Uniform:**

### **Boys' Uniform:**

- Grey trousers (short or long);
- Emerald green polo shirt (branded or unbranded);
- Brown V-necked sweatshirt or jumper (branded or unbranded);

- Grey socks; and
- Black shoes without visible stripes or coloured branded logo.

### **Girls' Uniforms:**

- Grey skirt or tailored trousers (short or long);
- Emerald green polo shirt (branded or unbranded);
- Brown V-necked sweatshirt or jumper (branded or unbranded);
- Grey or white socks.
- Black shoes without visible stripes or coloured branded logo; and
- Within the summer term, children may choose to wear a green and white checked or striped dress.

### **Swimming:**

Following the guidance of Wolverhampton Swimming and Fitness Centre, a one-piece swimming costume must be worn and children with long hair must wear a cap when accessing swimming lessons. Aerosol deodorants or hairspray are not allowed to adhere to health and safety guidelines.

### **P.E.**

- Plain white T-shirt;
- Black shorts;
- Black pumps;
- Black or grey jogging trousers and top (for outdoor games within the colder periods);
- We ask that all kit is stored in a named pump bag which must be stored within the children's personal locker.

### **Jewellery**

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or a Kara bangle. We ask the children either to remove these objects during PE and games, or to cover them up with a plaster.

### **Extreme Haircuts**

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children and hair should be of a natural colour. School expects hair to be tied up with ribbons, bobbles, hair bands and slides to minimise the chances of children having direct hair contact thus preventing the spread of head lice.

### **Make-Up**

We do not consider make up appropriate and children are not permitted to wear any such products – including nail varnish.

### **Labelling**

All clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with the child's name to avoid the loss of personal uniform items.

### **Footwear**

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in

keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear black shoes of a practical nature without a coloured branded logo or stripes.

### **Extreme Weather**

Children should dress appropriately for extreme weather conditions. In the summer, it is vital that children have a protective sun hat or cap. Sun cream should be applied before children arrive at school on hot, sunny days. Warm and waterproof coats must be provided during winter months.

### **The Role of Parents/Carers**

We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy as detailed here and its reference within the Home School Agreement – duly signed by parents and carers upon entry to school.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities without discrimination. However, the school must also weigh the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community. Parents' and carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis and in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

We believe that parents and carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents and carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent and carer would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example, religious objections why parents and carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically upon such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents or carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

### **The Role of Governors**

The Board of Governors supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents and carers regarding this policy, and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities.

The Board of Governors will consider on an individual basis, a parent's or carer's request for their child not to wear uniform stereotypically associated with their assigned gender.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

### **Monitoring and Review**

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Board of Governors will:

- Consider with the headteacher any requests from parents and carers for individual children to have special dispensations;
- Require the headteacher to report to the Governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Governors every three years, or earlier if considered necessary.