

Pimperne CE VC  
Primary School



# Pimperne CE VC Primary School

## School Uniform Policy

1/9/2023

Date policy last reviewed: \_\_\_\_\_

Signed by:

FCWaller

Headteacher

Date: 1/10/2023

JTorrance

Chair of governors

Date: 1/10/2023



*'As each one does their part, we grow in love'*  
Ephesians 4 vs.16



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## **Statement of intent**

Pimperne Primary believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

## 1. 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
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021

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'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- 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.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- 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.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Communicating with parents to discuss uniform compliance where pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- 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.

Pupils are responsible for:

- 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.

### **3. 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.
- Children in Care or who have been (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 multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible and does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements. More information on supplier processes can be found in the 'School uniform supplier' section of this policy.

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.

#### **4. 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.

## **5. Complaints and challenges**

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

## **6. School uniform supplier**

Our current school uniform suppliers are:

[Rag Tags – Blandford](#)

[My Clothing \(Tesco\) Online](#)

[Other retail outlets also provide suitable options that meet school requirements](#)

Our school uniform supplier, Rag Tags, accepts school uniform assistance credits, in partnership with the school

The school will continue to look for 'value' for money uniform options, whether changes to the uniform are made or not.

## **7. Uniform assistance**

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. School uniform assistance is provided via a credit that can be spent on school clothing. The budget for the school uniform assistance scheme comes from pupil premium funds; [Free school Meal assistance](#).

To claim school uniform assistance, parents should be eligible for [Free School Meals](#). Eligibility is determined by checking original documents from the relevant authority, detailing

receipt of the benefit and the address of the pupil. This can be done online via Dorset Council (details are on the school website or at the school office)

Families who meet the criteria should complete the [School Uniform Assistance Application Form](#) and return it to the school office.

The school holds second-hand school uniforms in the school foyer for parents to access. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it to the PTA, who organise periodic sales in the playground.

## 8. Non-compliance

Staff members are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

The headteacher, or a person authorised by the headteacher, is permitted to ask parents to remedy breaches to the school's uniform, eg. by returning home to collect the right uniform.

## 9. School uniform

### School colours

Our school colour is as follows:

- **Navy Blue**

### Clothing

The school uniform is as follows: (prices vary and are subject to change at the retail outlets)

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire	Approx Cost per item from school supplier
<b>Regular school uniform</b>				
Navy 'V' neck jumper or cardigan	Required	School logo	Rag Tags, Blandford My Clothing Online	£15.50 £10.30 / £11.50
Navy 'V' neck jumper or cardigan	Required	Plain	Other retail outlets	£6.00+ eg Saninsbury's
White polo shirt	Required	School logo	Rag Tags, Blandford My Clothing Online	£9.75 £6.80
White Polo shirt	Required	No branding	Other retail outlets	£3.00 for 2 eg Saninsbury's



Navy school fleece	Optional	School logo	My Clothing Online	£13.50
Grey or black trousers or grey skirt	Required	No branding	Rag Tags, Blandford My Clothing Online Other retail outlets	£12.50+ £9.50+ £7.00 for 2 eg Sainsbury's
Sensible, plain black shoes	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers.	£15+ eg Sainsbury's
School Tie	Required for Year 5 and Year 6	School Logo	Tie is 'gifted' to pupils entering Year 5 by the PTA. Replacements available	£7.50
White, collared shirt	Required for Year 5 and Year 6	No branding	My Clothing Other retail outlets	£15.00 for 5 £ variable
Navy and White check dresses	Optional	No branding	Available from regular retailers.	£2.50 + eg Sainsbury's
Socks or Tights	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers.	£ variable
<b>PE KIT</b>				
Navy polo shirt	Required	School logo	Rag Tags My Clothing Online	£8.95 £6.80 +
Plain Navy shorts/ skorts /	Required	No branding	RagTags My Clothing Online Other retail outlets	£5.95 £5.50 £3.00-£6.00
Navy (Plain) Jogging bottoms / tracksuit	Required	No branding	My Clothing online	£6.99 +
Navy (Plain) Sweatshirt or Hoodie	Required	No branding	Other retail outlets	£4.00+ eg Sainsbury's
Navy School Hoodie	Optional	School Logo	Rag Tags	£16.50+
Trainers	Required	No branding	Other retail outlets	£8.00+ eg Sainsbury's

Accessories				
School book bag	Required	School logo	Rag Tags Bookbags are 'gifted' to children in Reception (only) by the PTA.	£8.50
PE Bag	Optional	No branding	Rag Tags	£4.95
Small rucksack / School Bag	Optional	No branding	Other retail outlets	£ variable

Trainers are not considered suitable footwear on non-PE days. Children are not permitted to wear open-toed shoes, flip-flops or high heels are not permitted.

Skirts or dresses should be at least knee-length.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child wears their PE kit to school when needed on PE days. Children are allowed to wear PE kit on days that they attend sports clubs.

### Jewellery

Permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons. We ask children not to wear jewellery in school. If children have pierced ears then plain stud earrings may be worn, however, children should be able to remove earrings independently for PE sessions. If they are not able to do this, then earrings should not be worn on PE days. There are plenty of clocks around the school and it is preferred that children do not wear watches. Class teachers should be made aware if there is a specific need for a child to have a watch. Watches (including Fitbits) must be removed for PE sessions and are the responsibility of the child. No personal items that connect to the internet or have audio or photographic recording capacity are permitted into school with children (unless there is an approved specific need, please speak to your class teacher).

### School bag

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold A4-sized work books comfortably without causing any damage.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

### Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each

individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE, break times and class learning time

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured, dyed hair.
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours – headwear should be in the school colour of navy blue
- Excessive hair accessories.

### **Makeup and Nail Varnish**

Pupils are not permitted to wear make-up, nor nail varnish. The school reserve the right to remove nail varnish following parents being advised.

## **10. Adverse weather & 'Outdoor Learning Days'**

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather, and the school's 'Outdoor Learning Days'.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Loose-fitting and lightweight shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
- Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
- Tops that cover the shoulder area and midriff
- Sun hats or caps when outside, where possible.
- All day sun screen, applied at home

Pupils are advised not to wear any jumpers or blazers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.
- Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

## **11. Labelling**

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is taken to the lost property box outside Year 3, in the playground. All lost property is retained for one half term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

## **12. Monitoring and review**

This policy is reviewed annually by the chair of governors and the headteacher.

The scheduled review date for this policy is [1/10/2024](#)

# School Uniform Assistance Application Form

Children who attend Pimperne Primary School are eligible for school uniform assistance if they receive Free School Meals.

This scheme is open to children in Years R- 6. The allowance is for buying suitable school wear and is paid once a year.

## Part 1: Details of parent

<b>Your full name:</b>	
<b>Title:</b>	
<b>Address:</b>	
<b>Postcode:</b>	
<b>Mobile no.:</b>	
<b>Landline no.:</b>	
<b>Email address:</b>	
<b>Criteria or Benefits met: *highlight as appropriate</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Income Support</li> <li>• income-based Jobseeker's Allowance</li> <li>• income-related Employment and Support Allowance</li> <li>• support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999</li> <li>• the guaranteed element of Pension Credit</li> <li>• Child Tax Credit - provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190</li> <li>• Working Tax Credit run-on - paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit</li> <li>• Universal Credit - if you apply on or after 1 April 2018 your household income must be less than £7,400 a year (after tax and not including any benefits you get)</li> <li>• In receipt of Pupil Premium</li> </ul>

By supplying us with a phone number or email, you agree to being contacted to let you know if you are eligible. The school does not see any specific information about your income or the benefits you receive.



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**Part 2: Details of each dependent child you are applying for**

Surname	Other names	Date of birth

**Assistance with which Uniform Items**

Uniform Item

**Please note:** the school will not physically purchase an item, but will enable a voucher to be set up with **Rag Tags**, in Blandford, to a nominated value. This can be used to support the purchase of specific items that the school approves.

We are not always able to support all requests, and for this we are sorry. The funds available to us are limited and are shared among the needs of the school community.

**Please read this declaration before you sign it**

- I declare I am the parent of the child(ren) that I am applying for.
- I declare that all the information I have given is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- I understand that information taken from this form will be stored electronically on the school's computers. The school is permitted to do this under the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018.

**Please return this completed for to the school office.**

Your signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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**What happens next?**

If you apply for school uniform assistance and qualify, information will come out to you from the school office, letting you know how we are able to support you. If you do not qualify for the payment, we will let you know by letter or email and explain why.