



BATH & WELLS
Multi Academy Trust

'That they may have life, life in all its fullness' John 10:10

Uniform policy

Bath & Wells Diocesan Academies Trust

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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 all 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, sexual orientation, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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
- 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/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher 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 and in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 or fewer
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/classes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

We expect all of our pupils to wear school uniform as set out below. Please ensure each item is clearly named including water bottles, lunchboxes and book bags.

- Expectations for uniform - Long grey or black trousers (no leggings) – boys/girls, Grey or black skirts/pinafores, white polo shirts, navy blue school sweatshirt or cardigan with or without logo, Y6 may wear their 'leavers' sweatshirt once they have it, Sensible black shoes or ankle boots – no trainers.
- In summer children can wear light blue check dress, grey or black shorts, skirt or pinafore.
- Expectations for PE kit – plain black shorts, plain navy t-shirt, Blue Socks (if tights are worn during the day), Black daps or trainers, Plain Navy or Black track suit for colder months, Bag to hang PE kit on peg.

Please note that PE kit is to be brought into school every Monday morning and taken home for washing every Friday and school holiday. It is important for children to have a change of clothes and shoes in school at all times.
- Expectations for outdoor learning - Children must have a named bag containing wellington boots, an old long sleeved top and trousers for outdoor learning lessons.
- Expectations for jewellery and hair – Long hair should be tied up at all times. Tramline/shaved heads are not acceptable, nor dyed or coloured hair. No jewellery should be worn at school. Only ear studs are acceptable, but these should be covered during P.E. lessons.
- Expectations for coats, bags and shoes/trainers – children should bring in a coat everyday as they will go outside to play if it isn't too wet. Trainers are not permitted to be worn in school except for PE. Bags must be named.
- We urge parents to label children's belongings. Not only does this promote a child's independence it also ensures that we can return items to them quickly.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

Add details including:

- Pre-loved uniform can be purchased on a regular basis from our KFA team. Please contact them at office@kcs.bwmat.org
- You can buy uniform from most supermarkets or from our online uniform provider schooltogsnailsea.co.uk

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 speak to the Heateacher 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/carers are also expected to contact the 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

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

We encourage all pupils to wear the agreed school uniform. Where a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform, staff will work sensitively with families to understand and address any concerns or barriers to compliance. No pupil will be excluded from learning or disadvantaged because of difficulties accessing the required uniform.

5.4 Role of the Trust Local Committee (TLC)

The Trust Local Committee 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/carers, and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The TLC 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 TLC in relation to the detail of the school uniform and where it can be purchased or acquired. At every review, parents/carers will be asked for their views.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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