

## Uniform Policy



### Spring

#### 1.1 Introduction

At Overstone Primary School we believe that school uniform is an essential part of our school identity.

Our parents, staff and governors strongly support a school uniform. It helps pupils to have a sense of belonging and collective identity. We have high expectations for our children to look smart and take pride in their school uniform and school community. Our school uniform helps support and promote our school ethos and school values.

Additionally, as well as being smart we believe that uniform should be comfortable and practical to help children to focus on their learning rather than their clothing or any social pressures. Therefore, our governors have decided that our school policy is that all pupils should wear a school uniform.

This policy was written with reference to the Department for Education (DfE Uniform Guidance for schools, including the non-statutory guidance).

We strongly encourage schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

(DfE Uniform Guidance for Schools, November 2021)

#### 1.2 Policy Aims

We aim to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for 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

#### 1.3 Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

To avoid discrimination, our school will be mindful of The Equality Act 2010 which prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

#### 1.4 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 our school logo) 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 make sure our uniform:

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

### 1.5 Expectations for Our School's Uniform

- Overstone Primary School crew neck sweatshirt/cardigan with logo (plain red is also acceptable).
- Overstone Primary School polo shirt with logo (plain white polo shirt is also acceptable).
- Grey/black trousers/skirt/shorts/pinafore dress
- Plain grey/black/white socks/grey, black or red tights.

#### Summer Variation:

- Gingham dress- red and white
- Shorts- grey

Black or white 'cycling style' shorts can be worn under skirts or dresses for modesty reasons but should not be longer than the skirt or dress itself.

#### Shoes

- Sensible, flat black school shoes. Smart all black leather, polishable trainers with no coloured elements, branding or logos and plain black laces. Plain black leather boots (no fashion shoes, high wedges of heels, sling backs or open toe sandals in the summer).



#### PE kit:

- Overstone primary school white t-shirt with logo (plain white is also acceptable).
- Plain red sports shorts
- Plain white socks
- Trainers or plimsolls

PE kits should be provided in a red draw string Overstone Primary School PE bag.

### 1.5.1 Book Bags and Rucksacks

Children in KS1 and KS2 should have a school book-bag to keep reading books and other school documents safe.

In KS2 children may also bring a ruck sack/ back pack to carry items to school but these must be of a reasonable size to fit securely in a shared locker.

Children in Years R, 1 and 2 can not bring in ruck sacks/back packs as there is no storage facility for these in school. A book bag and PE bag will suffice.

### 1.5.2 Where to buy

Logo items are available to order direct on-line with credit/debit card. We have provided weblinks to uniformshop in Wellingborough who can supply our full range where you can try on items for size and place an order; on any orders placed they offer a click and collect, delivery to home or school during term time only. Also a limited range is currently available to order direct on-line from MyClothing, these orders will be delivered direct to home only. Alternatively for pre-loved uniform items please visit Uniformerly.co.uk

<https://www.uniformshopwellingborough.co.uk/collections/overstone-primary-school>

<https://myclothing.com/collections/overstone-primary-school-7903>

<https://uniformerly.co.uk/search-listings/?q=&c=14638>

### 1.5.3 Jewellery

Only small stud earrings and watches are acceptable. **No other jewellery is permitted.** Simple step counting (Fitbit style) watches are allowed. However, smart watches that connect to the internet or have the ability to take photos or films, receive or send messages or connect to smart phones must not be worn at any time due to safeguarding. School is not responsible for any loss or damage to jewellery or watches.

Pupils must be able to remove their earrings themselves for PE as school staff are not permitted to do this. If a pupil is unable to remove their jewellery they will be unable to take part in PE, which is a statutory part of the curriculum. Therefore, if parents are considering having their child's ears pierced, the summer holiday is the best time to do so. This should help ensure that important PE curriculum time is not missed.

Hair bands and accessories should be discreet and in line with school uniform colours.

Headscarves should be plain black, grey or red (to match and compliment the school sweatshirt).

### 1.5.4 Make-up

Make-up and nail varnish is not permitted.

## 1.6 Expectations for our school community

### 1.6.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

We expect that our pupils will take pride in their uniform and ensure that they look smart at all times.

### **1.6.2 Parents and carers**

We ask that parents work with the school to support our approach to uniform. As such, parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- In good condition
- Clearly labelled with the child's name

We ask that all items of uniform, clothing and other personal items (e.g. school bags, lunch boxes, pencil cases etc.) are clearly named and labelled. This is to ensure that all items can be quickly returned to children and avoid ending up in lost property. Please note that we are not liable for any lost items.

Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy. This may then need to be forwarded to the school Governors for discussion.

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

### **1.6.3 Staff**

Staff will take a positive approach to encourage pupils to wear the appropriate school uniform. They will promote the importance of school uniform and help pupils feel a sense of pride in their uniform, praising children for wearing it correctly.

Staff will monitor pupils to ensure that they are in the correct uniform and seek to work positively with parents where any issues arise.

If children come to school without the correct uniform, staff will ask if the child has the correct item with them. Children will be asked to wear the correct uniform the following day.

If necessary, the child's teacher or Teaching Assistant will engage with parents to help support the child in remembering the correct item. If concerns around missing or incorrect uniform becomes a persistent issue then a member of the Senior Leadership Team will contact the child's parents to find a way forward.

As a school we will take a sensible and considered approach during extreme weather to ensure pupil safety and comfort. For example, parents might be notified that pupils can wear PE kit or loose, light clothing during a heatwave. Parents would be notified through the usual school communication channels (ParentPay, Twitter)

### **1.6.4 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.

### **1.7 Controversial and Sensitive Issues**

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.

### **1.8 Child Protection**

If any concerns are raised surrounding a pupil's appearance or uniform staff should follow the procedures for reporting their concerns as set out in the school's Child Protection Policy.

### **1.9 Dissemination**

All staff and governors will be aware of the Uniform Policy. Parents will be able to access the policy on the school website.

### **2.0 Monitoring and evaluation of the policy**

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. At every review, it will be approved by governors and the Headteacher.

Policy Review Date: Autumn 2025