

Uniform and Jewellery Policy

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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 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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- > Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- > Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. 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 <u>guidance</u> 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 make sure our uniform:

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

Burnhope Primary Uniform and Jelellery Policy

We will do this by:

- > Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- > Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- > Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- > Considering cheaper alternatives to school-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 pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- > Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- > Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- > Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

- > Grey, black or navy trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt
- Grey, black or navy tights
- > Blue gingham summer dress in warmer months
- > Navy blue jumper (school badge preferred but not essential) Light blue polo shirt
- Plain black shoes or boots in winter
- Wellies to be kept in school
- > A suitable coat appropriate for the weather
- > A small bookbag is recommended to carry equipment to and from school

NB: Leggings are not acceptable as part of the main school uniform

Children also need a change of clothes for their P.E. lessons. PE kit is essential. When children join our school, they are put into red, blue, yellow or green house and they should wear a white t-shirt.

PE kit consists of:

- black or navy shorts and leggings/jogging bottoms for colder weather
- Plain white t-shirt (with either the school badge or plain no other logos allowed)
- trainers for indoor and outdoor PE
- PE bag (preferably school PE bag)

Children start swimming lessons in Year 3 and may have additional lessons up to Year 6. For swimming they will need:

- > one-piece swimming costume or swimming shorts
- swimming hat
- towel NB: Swimming goggles are not allowed unless there is a medical reason confirmed by a medical professional

Please ensure that all uniform and PE kit is labelled with your child's name.

All children are expected to wear the school colours and correct footwear for both everyday use and for PE. Parents will be contacted should children not have correct uniform.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Branded items are available from Moette in Langley Park https://www.moette.co.uk/

4.3 Expectations for Jewellery

In the interest of safety, we encourage children not to wear jewelry in school. Jewelry can present a risk of injury to the wearer and to others, and our aim is to keep children safe from harm at school. In general:

- Children may wear a plain watch to school, but must take it off for physical activities, including PE.
- Smart watches or fitness bands are **NOT** allowed.
- Children may wear one pair of earrings (small studs ONLY) to school, but must take these out for physical activities. Parents are asked to sign a consent form stating that they wish their child to wear earrings in school.
- No other jewellery may be worn by children at school, including bands around wrists.
- Any hair accessories, such as headbands, must be small and sensible.
- Appropriate hair style/colour/cut shaved designs or dyed hair colours or hair extensions are not acceptable.
- This guidance includes non-school uniform days and school trips. PE and Physical Activities

PE and Sporting Activities

- No jewellery should be worn for PE or other sporting activities.
- No jewellery should be worn for Swimming.
- If children cannot remove their jewellery themselves (for example: small studs), they will not be allowed to participate in the lesson or activity.
- It would be useful if children did not wear their small studs on PE days, or on days when they are taking part in a sporting activity.
- Children will not be allowed to cover their earrings with a plaster, because this does not provide adequate protection.

School Staff

• Staff will not assist children to remove or put in earrings.

- Staff will not forcibly remove any item of jewellery from children.
- Staff will ask children to remove any items of jewellery which are not allowed to be worn at school.
- If children regularly come to school wearing items of jewellery which our policy does not allow, staff will contact parents to discuss the matter.
- If children have to miss PE or another physical activity because they cannot remove their own jewellery, staff will contact parents to discuss the matter.
- Staff/School will not be responsible for jewellery brought into school by children.

Parents/Carers

- Parents/carers will be advised of the school's policy on uniform and jewellery through the website, school brochure and newsletters.
- Parents/carers are asked NOT to get children's ears pierced during term time. The beginning of the 6-week summer break would be the best time in order to allow sufficient time for the wound(s) to heal.
- In the event of a child coming to school wearing jewellery, the child will be asked to remove it. If that is not possible, the parent/carer will be contacted to come to school to remove it.

5. Expectations for Make-up and nail varnish

- Make-up is not allowed to be worn in school, unless it is for the purposes of a stage production and is relevant to a child's role.
- Nail or gel varnish should not be worn in school.
- False nails are not allowed to be worn for school. We thank parents and carers for supporting our high expectations of school uniform. Should you have any queries, please don't hesitate to contact us.

6. Expectations for our school community

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

6.2 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 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 are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

6.3 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Headteacher.

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.

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, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by retendering contracts at least every 5 years.

7. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

8. Links to other policies

- This policy is linked to our:
- Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statement
- > Anti-bullying policy
- > Complaints policy