

Low Furness CE Primary School

'Learning Together Through Faith'

Policy for School Uniform

Statement of intent

Low Furness C.E. Primary School 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.

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

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 socioeconomic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.

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- 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.

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 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 such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure that our uniform:

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

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different classes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure 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 changes to uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

Expectations for school uniform

Boys	Girls
Grey trousers/ shorts	Grey skirt/ pinafore/ trousers
Pale blue polo shirt (school colour)	Pale blue polo shirt (school colour)
Royal blue sweatshirt (school colour)	Royal blue sweatshirt / cardigan (school colour)
Black/ grey socks	Black/ grey/ white socks/ grey tights

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Black school shoes	Black school shoes
	Summer: check blue and white dress
PE (all year round on PE days only)	
House colour PE t-shirt Royal blue shorts Sapphire blue hoodies (Key Stage 2 only) Joggers (plain) / Trainers/pumps	House colour PE t-shirt Royal blue shorts Sapphire blue hoodies (Key Stage 2 only) Joggers (plain) / Trainers/pumps

Please note: With regard to pumps, velcro fastenings are essential for younger children for indoor P.E. in the hall and **shoes such as Converse or Vans are not appropriate for outdoor P.E. lessons.**

Where to purchase

School uniform (with a school logo) is available from **Identity (located at Unit 2, Business Park, Peter Green Way, Barrow-in-Furness LA14 2PE Tel: 01229 823584) or Cumbria Embroidery and Print available online.** Alternatively, uniform can be purchased from a variety of supermarkets or shops without the logo provided it is in keeping with the school colours.

If you have difficulties in purchasing uniform, please contact school. We have second hand uniform available to families in a range of sizes, on request.

Labelling

Please label all clothing and footwear. It is vital that all removable items are named, i.e. cardigans, sweatshirts, t-shirts, trousers and pumps. Please use either name tapes or the special washable pens (NOT biro as this washes out).

Jewellery and make-up

For many reasons, including safety, we encourage children to not wear jewellery and we kindly ask that parents do not have children's ears pierced during term time. We do allow earring studs in pierced ears. The health and safety advice from the PE association is that children should not wear earrings for any PE for safety reasons, as they can pierce through tape or plasters and cause injury.

We do appreciate that when children have just had their ears pierced the earrings are unable to be removed for a number of weeks. During this time, parents are able to apply tape securely in the morning before children arrive at school, so they can take part in the PE lesson. After this time, earrings should be removed before school on PE days. Older children may be able to remove and put back their earrings before and after the lesson, but younger children will need their earrings removed at home.

The wearing of jewellery such as rings, bracelets, necklaces etc is not encouraged. Pupils may wear a watch but are responsible for its safe keeping.

Make up should not be worn to school.

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Hair

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. We recommend that it is tied or clipped back throughout the school day. Long hair **must** be tied up during practical lessons, e.g., during PE.

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- brightly-coloured, dyed hair.
- headwear with bold patterns or colours.
- Mohican style hair cuts
- excessive hair accessories.

Footwear

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes without logos. If boots are worn, these should also be plain black. As Key Stage 1 children we spend a lot of time outdoors, we ask that children have a pair of named wellies, which are kept in school.

Expectations for our school community

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)

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

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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.

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.

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 governing body 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.

Monitoring arrangements This policy will be reviewed every three years or sooner if required by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by governing body. Links to other policies This policy is linked to our: Behaviour policy Equality information and objectives statement Anti-bullying policy Complaints policy

Reviewing the policy

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The policy will be reviewed as part of the school's evaluation cycle. The policy is due for review in Spring 2025