



# *Christleton Primary School*

*Be the best you can be*

## Uniform Policy

|                                  |                        |                       |     |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------|-----|
| <b>Document Name</b>             |                        | <b>Reviewed by</b>    |     |
| Uniform Policy                   |                        | Full Governing Body   |     |
| <b>Author</b>                    | Mr Mitchell            | <b>Version number</b> | 2.0 |
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| July 2026                        |                        | September 2028        |     |
| <b>Signed Headteacher</b>        |                        | <i>Mr Mitchell</i>    |     |
| <b>Signed Chair of Governors</b> |                        |                       |     |

# **Christleton Primary School**

## **Uniform Policy**

### **Intent**

Our policy has been created with health and safety, value for money, and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure pupils wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment. It is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform. The policy also seeks to ensure that affordability, equality, inclusion, comfort and participation are not barriers to attendance, learning or wider school life.

We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports specific attire. Uniform requirements will therefore be kept simple, safe, inclusive and affordable, with generic options wherever possible.

Christleton Primary School is committed to ensuring equality and value for money, and that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives. The school will also make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils and consider individual needs connected with SEND, medical conditions and all protected characteristics.

### **Legislative framework**

This policy has been developed with regard to the legislation and guidance in force or published for implementation at the date of approval, including:

- Education Act 1996, as amended, including the limit on compulsory branded school-uniform items applying from 1 September 2026;
- Education and Inspections Act 2006;
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021;
- Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026;
- Equality Act 2010, including the Public Sector Equality Duty and the duty to make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils;
- Human Rights Act 1998;
- Children and Families Act 2014 and the SEND Code of Practice: 0 to 25 years, where relevant;
- Data Protection Act 2018 and UK GDPR, where personal or special-category information is recorded;
- DfE statutory guidance, Cost of school uniforms, updated 6 July 2026;
- DfE guidance, Developing school uniform policy, updated July 2026;

- Keeping children safe in education 2025 until 31 August 2026 and Keeping children safe in education 2026 from 1 September 2026;
- DfE statutory guidance on suspension and permanent exclusion, updated 26 July 2026, where relevant;
- EHRC technical guidance for schools in England and guidance on preventing hair discrimination;
- relevant health and safety guidance, including current afPE advice for PE and UKHSA hot-weather guidance.

Where legislation or statutory guidance changes before the scheduled review date, the school will review and amend this policy sooner.

### **Roles and responsibilities**

- The governing body will decide whether the school has a uniform, approve the policy or delegate approval in accordance with its scheme of delegation, ensure compliance with the branded-item cap and statutory cost guidance, and monitor affordability, equality and effectiveness.
- The headteacher will implement the policy, make or delegate operational decisions, consider individual requests and reasonable adjustments, ensure enforcement is proportionate, and report material issues to the governing body.
- Staff will apply the policy fairly and consistently, avoid public embarrassment, consider reasons outside a pupil's control, and refer financial, equality, medical, SEND or safeguarding concerns to the appropriate senior leader.
- Parents and carers are asked to support the policy, label items, contact the school promptly where support or an adjustment is needed, and avoid sending valuable personal items into school.
- Pupils are expected to wear the agreed uniform, look after their belongings, follow safety instructions and tell a trusted adult where clothing or appearance requirements are causing difficulty.

### **Cost and availability**

Christleton Primary School is committed to fulfilling the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. The governing body and school must have regard to the DfE statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms.

Every care has been taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and potential pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers. Affordability will be considered across the whole uniform, including PE kit, footwear and seasonal items, rather than item by item only.

Branded uniform is available from My School Style. All items identified below as generic may be purchased from any suitable retailer, including supermarkets and high-street or online retailers. The school will not require a family to purchase an optional branded version where a compliant generic item is permitted.

**Compulsory branded-item count from 1 September 2026:** one item. A pupil is required to have either a school-branded royal-blue sweatshirt or a school-branded royal-blue cardigan. Because these are alternatives and only one is required, they count as one compulsory branded item. All other branded versions referred to in this policy are optional and have a generic alternative.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes into account the views of parents and pupils when considering changes to school uniforms.

Significant changes will normally be consulted on and introduced with reasonable notice and transitional arrangements so that usable existing items are not wasted.

Families experiencing financial difficulty should contact the school business manager. Requests will be handled sensitively and confidentially. No pupil will be prevented from attending school, accessing teaching, PE, swimming, clubs, visits or other school activities solely because their family cannot afford an item of uniform.

Second-hand uniform is available through the PTA. Information will be kept current on the school website and made freely accessible to families.

Any exclusive or approved branded-supplier arrangement will be governed by a written agreement, prioritise cost and value for money, avoid cashback arrangements that increase cost to families, and be reviewed and re-tendered at least every five years unless the school can evidence a lawful and value-for-money reason for a different arrangement or the arrangement is managed by the local authority.

### **Religious clothing**

The school respects clothing, hairstyles, headwear and items worn because of religion or belief. Any restriction must pursue a legitimate aim and be necessary, evidence-based and proportionate. General preference, tradition or a vague concern about “cohesion” will not by itself justify a restriction.

Parents and carers should discuss any requested variation with the headteacher. The headteacher will consider the pupil’s individual circumstances, equality and human-rights duties, safeguarding and evidenced health and safety risks, and will consult the family and relevant professionals where appropriate. The governing body provides strategic oversight and will become involved only through an agreed delegated function or the formal complaints process.

### **Equality**

The school is required to ensure that the Uniform Policy does not discriminate unlawfully. The school will consciously consider the impact of its policy and decisions on pupils with protected characteristics and will keep this impact under review.

The uniform list is not divided by sex. Every pupil may wear any of the listed uniform options, provided the item meets the colour, safety and practical requirements in this policy.

The school will make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils and will consider variations connected with disability, sensory needs, SEND, medical conditions, religion or belief, race, sex, gender reassignment or other protected characteristics. A diagnosis is not always required before a reasonable adjustment can be considered.

Where a request forms part of a wider question about social transition or raises a safeguarding concern, the headteacher and designated safeguarding lead will consider the child's best interests and individual circumstances in accordance with KCSIE, the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998, involving parents or carers except where doing so would place the child at risk of significant harm.

Only information necessary to make, communicate and review an individual arrangement will be recorded. It will be handled confidentially and in accordance with the school's data-protection arrangements.

### **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. When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome. Concerns should normally be raised first with the class teacher or school office and then the headteacher, as appropriate. If unresolved, the published complaints procedure applies.

Individual governors should not investigate or decide operational requests outside the governing body's agreed procedures. After the school's complaints procedure has been exhausted, a complainant may use any further route identified in that procedure, including contacting the Department for Education where the complaint concerns the school's exercise of its duties.

### **Breaching the school uniform policy / non-compliance**

It is the headteacher's responsibility to make sure pupils keep to the rules. The headteacher will ensure that the policy is applied fairly, reasonably and consistently.

The headteacher and teaching staff can discipline pupils for breaching the Uniform Policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy. Any response must be proportionate and must take account of the pupil's age, needs and circumstances.

Where a pupil is not wearing the expected uniform or does not have PE kit, staff will respond discreetly and seek to understand the reason. The school will consider affordability, loss or damage, laundry or housing difficulties, disability, sensory needs, SEND, medical needs, religion or belief, safeguarding concerns and any agreed individual variation. Parents or carers will be contacted where appropriate and practical support will be offered before sanctions are considered.

A pupil will not be sent home informally, denied teaching, removed from PE, prevented from joining a club, visit or wider school activity, or deprived of social time solely because their family cannot afford the correct item. Temporary loan items may be offered where available and appropriate. Persistent and deliberate refusal to

follow a reasonable instruction may be addressed under the Behaviour Policy after supportive measures and individual circumstances have been considered. Any suspension or permanent exclusion may be used only by the headteacher, for a lawful reason and in accordance with the current DfE statutory guidance; it will not be used for a minor or isolated uniform breach.

## Uniform

The table below identifies whether each item is required or optional, whether it must be branded or may be generic, and where it may be obtained. The written requirements take precedence over photographs, which are illustrative only.

| Item                 | Revised requirement                                                                                                  | Status                                   | Where available                                                     |
|----------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Outer layer</b>   | At least one royal-blue school-branded crewneck sweatshirt or royal-blue school-branded cardigan (pupil choice).     | Required; compulsory branded item 1 of 1 | My School Style                                                     |
| <b>Polo shirt</b>    | Plain sky-blue/light-blue polo shirt. A school-logo version may be worn but is optional.                             | Required; generic permitted              | Any suitable retailer; optional logo version from approved supplier |
| <b>Lower garment</b> | Plain navy or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt, pinafore or other agreed equivalent that is practical and safe. | Required; generic                        | Any suitable retailer                                               |
| <b>Socks/tights</b>  | Plain white, grey, black or navy socks or tights.                                                                    | Required; generic                        | Any suitable retailer                                               |

| Item                 | Revised requirement                                                                                                               | Status                                 | Where available                           |
|----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Shoes</b>         | Plain black or dark-brown school shoes, or plain black trainers, which are secure, supportive and suitable for school activities. | Required; generic                      | Any suitable retailer                     |
| <b>Summer shorts</b> | Short trousers may be worn instead of trousers.                                                                                   | Optional seasonal; generic             | Any suitable retailer                     |
| <b>Summer dress</b>  | Blue-and-white gingham checked or striped dress.                                                                                  | Optional seasonal; generic             | Any suitable retailer                     |
| <b>Warm weather</b>  | Polo shirts may be worn without a sweatshirt or cardigan. Further temporary relaxation may be communicated during hot weather.    | Optional seasonal                      | Not applicable                            |
| <b>Fleece</b>        | Optional royal-blue fleece. A school-logo version or a plain generic version may be worn.                                         | Optional; generic alternative required | Any suitable retailer / approved supplier |

## Footwear

- Footwear should be plain black or dark brown school shoes, or plain black trainers, with a secure fastening and a flat, stable sole suitable for learning, play and movement. A discreet manufacturer mark in black or a tone-on-tone finish is acceptable.
- Very thin-soled ballet pumps and indoor plimsolls should not be used as everyday outdoor footwear unless agreed as a reasonable adjustment or temporary arrangement.
- No sandals, flip flops or open toed shoes. This restriction is based on safety; reasonable adjustments will be considered individually.

- Footwear must not have lights, wheels or prominent contrasting colours. Cost-effective, safe footwear will not be rejected solely because it has a small manufacturer logo.

All pupils are expected to take part in PE through suitable, safe and inclusive provision. Parents or carers should inform the class teacher of an injury, illness or medical reason affecting participation, in advance where possible. The school will make reasonable adjustments, follow relevant medical advice and adapt the activity or learning role so that the pupil remains included. A pupil will not be required to change into PE kit where doing so is medically inappropriate or inconsistent with an agreed adjustment. Longer-term or complex needs will be planned with the pupil, family, SENCo and relevant professionals as appropriate.

### **Physical Education (PE)**

All PE clothing is generic unless the policy expressly says otherwise. Logo versions and school-branded PE hoodies are optional and do not count as compulsory branded items because a generic alternative is permitted.

| <b>Category</b>    | <b>Revised requirement</b>                                                                                                                                                   | <b>Status</b>                          |
|--------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>PE top</b>      | Plain royal-blue T-shirt. School-logo version optional.                                                                                                                      | Required; generic permitted            |
| <b>PE bottoms</b>  | Plain black or navy shorts, skort, tracksuit bottoms or opaque sports leggings, appropriate to the activity.                                                                 | Required; pupil choice; generic        |
| <b>Socks</b>       | A change of socks where needed for comfort and hygiene.                                                                                                                      | Recommended, not a branded requirement |
| <b>PE footwear</b> | One pair of well-fitting, secure sports trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor activity. A provider may communicate a specific safe alternative for a particular activity. | Required; generic                      |

| Category            | Revised requirement                                                                                                            | Status                                |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Winter layer</b> | In colder weather, a plain royal-blue, navy or black tracksuit top/jogging bottoms or other suitable sports layer may be worn. | Optional; generic                     |
| <b>PE hoodie</b>    | A school-logo PE hoodie may be worn but is optional; a plain royal-blue, navy or black generic sports layer is permitted.      | Optional; generic alternative         |
| <b>Leggings</b>     | Plain black or navy opaque sports leggings may be worn as one of the PE-bottom options.                                        | Required option where chosen; generic |

## Swimming

- A suitable one-piece swimming costume, swim shorts/trunks, or agreed modest/full-body swimwear that is safe for the pool and permitted by the swimming provider.
- A towel and bag to keep wet kit separate from dry. Items should be labelled where practicable.
- Goggles are optional and are not required. They may be worn only where the swimming provider permits them, parental/carers consent has been provided where required, and the pupil can fit and remove them independently. Pupils must also develop confidence and water-safety skills without relying on goggles.
- Any additional swimming-provider rules, including swimming hats or medical information, will be communicated separately and checked for affordability, equality and safety.

Our uniform policy also covers aspects such as jewellery, make-up and hair. The table below provides an overview of these areas. The requirements below must be applied with reasonable adjustments and individual consideration where required by law.

## **Jewellery**

- Jewellery should not be worn other than watches and plain stud earrings (silver or gold colour). Any permitted item remains the responsibility of the pupil and family.
- A watch may be stored safely during a lesson if it causes repeated distraction.
- Smart watches or wearable devices capable of games, photography, audio/video recording, messaging, calls or live tracking are not permitted unless the headteacher has expressly authorised a specific function as part of an agreed adjustment or medical arrangement.
- All jewellery, watches and other personal effects must be removed before PE, swimming, active clubs and other activities where they present a risk. Covering earrings with tape or a plaster is not an alternative to removal. Staff will not remove pupils' earrings; families should ensure they are removed before school on relevant days.
- Pupils are not permitted to wear any other jewellery in the school grounds due to health and safety risks. Religious or cultural items and medical devices will be considered individually. Where an item cannot be removed or made safe, the activity will be suitably adapted following a risk assessment so that the pupil remains physically active wherever possible.
- Families considering new piercings are strongly advised to arrange them at the start of a long school holiday so that the jewellery can be safely removed for PE when school resumes.

## **Make-up**

- Make-up is not normally appropriate for primary-school pupils and should not ordinarily be worn. The headteacher may agree an individual variation for medical, disability, religious, cultural, safeguarding or wellbeing reasons, following discussion with the pupil and parent or carer as appropriate.
- Nail varnish and artificial nails should not ordinarily be worn because of practical and safety considerations. Individual variations will be considered where legally required or otherwise reasonable.

## **Hair**

- Hair and hairstyles will not be judged by subjective terms such as "extreme", "exotic" or "inappropriate". Any restriction must be clearly connected to an evidenced, legitimate and proportionate safety, safeguarding or learning aim.
- Natural, protective, cultural and religious hairstyles are permitted. This includes, but is not limited to, Afros, braids, cornrows, locks, twists, plaits, skin fades and appropriate head coverings.

- The same safety rules apply to all pupils regardless of sex: hair should not prevent clear vision and must be secured where necessary for PE, swimming, food preparation, science, design and technology or another practical activity.
- Hair accessories should be secure and safe for the activity. Religious, cultural, disability-related or medical headwear and accessories will be permitted or adjusted unless an evidenced risk cannot be managed by a less restrictive measure.

### **Hot weather**

The school will monitor local forecasts and UKHSA Heat-Health Alerts. During hot weather, particularly an amber or red alert, the headteacher may temporarily relax uniform requirements and will communicate the arrangements to families as early as practicable.

- Pupils may be encouraged to wear loose, lightweight and light-coloured clothing that is compatible with the temporary arrangements, together with a suitable sunhat. Jumpers, cardigans and fleeces should be removed when they are not needed.
- The school will maximise access to drinking water, shade and cooler spaces, adapt vigorous physical activity and timetables where necessary, and take account of pupils who are more vulnerable because of age, disability, medical needs or medication.
- Parents and carers may be asked to apply sunscreen before school and provide labelled sunscreen for reapplication in accordance with the school's agreed procedures. Sunglasses may be worn where safe and appropriate, including for a medical need or agreed adjustment.
- A child will not be punished or routinely prevented from playing because their clothing does not meet an ideal sun-protection standard. Staff will use shade, loan items, indoor/cooler alternatives and family contact to manage risk proportionately.
- Temporary hot-weather arrangements do not permanently alter the approved uniform and will be reviewed when conditions change.

### **Labelling**

All clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with the pupil's name. Labels should not display personal information more widely than necessary. Unclaimed items will be managed through the school's lost-property and second-hand-uniform arrangements.

### **Individual requests and temporary variations**

- A parent, carer or pupil may request a temporary or longer-term variation by contacting the headteacher.

- The school will consider the reason, the pupil's views and best interests, equality and human-rights duties, affordability, safeguarding and evidence-based safety. It will seek the least restrictive workable solution.
- An agreed variation will be communicated only to staff who need to know and will be reviewed at an appropriate time. Refusal reasons will be explained and the complaints procedure will be signposted.

### **Monitoring and review**

- The headteacher will review implementation at least annually, including the number of compulsory branded items, costs, supplier performance, availability of generic and second-hand items, requests for support or adjustment, complaints, sanctions and any equality or attendance impact.
- The governing body will receive sufficient information to assure itself that the policy remains affordable, lawful, inclusive and consistently implemented.
- The policy will be fully reviewed at least every three years, or sooner following changes to legislation, statutory guidance, supplier arrangements or school circumstances.
- Once approved, the policy will be published on the school website in an accessible format. Key requirements and any significant changes will be communicated to staff, pupils and families. Staff responsible for implementation will be briefed on affordability, equality, reasonable adjustments, safeguarding and PE jewellery safety.

### **Illustrative uniform images**





**Examples of generally suitable plain black trainers; a discreet black or tone-on-tone manufacturer mark is acceptable.**



**Examples that would usually not meet the plain-colour requirement because of prominent contrasting colours, lights or decorative features. Written requirements and reasonable adjustments take precedence.**

