

Banks Road Primary School



School Uniform 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 Equality Act 2010 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 in order to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in, or which 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 Mr. Savage (Deputy Headteacher), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests
- Make reasonable adjustments for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND), including where uniform requirements may cause discomfort, sensory difficulty or reduced access to learning

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 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 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

We will do this by:

- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting the number of school uniform items with distinctive characteristics
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items that pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/ class/ house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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 the policy
- From September 2026, in line with statutory guidance, we will limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to no more than 3. At Banks Road Primary School, the only compulsory branded item is the school jumper or cardigan. All other items, including polo shirts, PE clothing and school bags, can be purchased from any retailer.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

At Banks Road Primary School, we expect all children to wear our school uniform. We believe that wearing our school uniform encourages a sense of belonging and plays an important part of our whole school ethos. We want all children to feel proud to wear our Banks Road uniform.

Main Uniform

Autumn/ Winter:

- White blouse* or white shirt* and school tie
- Banks Road jumper or cardigan (this is the only compulsory branded item)
- Grey skirt* or pinafore dress*

- Grey/ white/ black socks*
- Grey trousers*

Summer:

- Blue and white, or yellow and white gingham dress. Blue and white, or yellow and white gingham dress (to maintain consistency with school colours)
- Grey trousers* or shorts*
- Banks Road polo shirt or white shirt and tie (this is the only compulsory branded item)

* These items can be purchased from any high street store or supermarket.

Footwear

- All children must wear black school shoes.
- Trainers are not permitted unless children are wearing their PE kit, or where there is a specific need (e.g. medical or SEND requirement).
- Children are permitted to wear white sandals with their summer uniform.

Hair, jewellery and accessories

- No jewellery is allowed except for a watch and only small, plain studs if children have pierced ears. No other types of earrings are permitted.
- Analogue or digital watches can be worn; however, smart watches are not allowed if they have camera, internet access or communication functions. Children can wear 'Fitbits' (or other forms of step-counting wrist technology) so long as there is no camera facility or internet access.
- Hair accessories are to be kept to a discreet minimum.
- Long hair must be tied back.
- Hair should be neat and appropriate for school. We recognise and celebrate all hair types, textures and styles, including those linked to cultural, racial and religious identity. We do not discriminate against natural or protective hairstyles (such as afros, braids, locs, twists or cornrows).
- Extreme styles (for example, bright unnatural colours or patterns shaved into the hair) are not permitted where they may be considered unsafe or disruptive to learning.
- Nail varnish or false/acrylic nails should not be worn in school.
- Make up should not be worn in school.

Other items

Children also require the following items, all of which must be clearly labelled with the child's name:

- Coat/ jacket, which is suitable for the weather
- School bag
- Wellies (only applicable for children in Nursery and Reception)
- Hat, scarf and/or gloves, as appropriate for the weather.

Many of these items can be purchased on the 'School Shop', which can be accessed via the school's website: <https://shops.parentapps.co.uk/banksroad/>

We expect every child to come into school wearing a coat/ jacket that is appropriate for the weather conditions.

We also expect all children to wear school uniform PE kit (including suitable trainers) on the day they have their PE lesson. Children can wear either a Banks Road school jog-suit, which is branded with our school logo, or shorts and t-shirt for PE.

We also offer optional Banks Road book bags, school ties and baseball caps, all of which can be purchased on the 'School Shop', which can be accessed via the school's website:

<https://shops.parentapps.co.uk/banksroad/>

Parents/ carers of new-starting children can order school uniform ahead of their child's start date. They will be given an order form by a member of the school office team as part of their child's admission.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Parents/ carers can obtain branded items of our school uniform from our 'School Shop', which can be accessed via the school's website: <https://shops.parentapps.co.uk/banksroad/>
- All additional items of school uniform clothing, including shoes, can be purchased more widely, e.g., from 'high-street' retailers
- Second-hand (pre-loved) uniform can be obtained free of charge from our 'School Shop' (same details as above)
- Any parents/carers experiencing financial hardship will be supported in obtaining school uniform for their child(ren). In order to help maintain parent/carer's dignity, this is treated with utmost confidentiality.

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

Pupils are also expected to contact Mr. Savage (Deputy Headteacher) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics. This includes requests related to special educational needs and/or disabilities, where adjustments may be required to support comfort, safety or access to learning.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, including black school shoes and suitable trainers for PE, and that every item is:

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

Parents are also expected to contact Mr. Savage (Deputy 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.

5.3 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.

5.4 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 Governing 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 re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher and approved by the full Governing Board.

Where significant changes to the uniform are proposed, the school will consult with parents, carers and pupils. Feedback will be carefully considered to ensure the uniform remains affordable, inclusive and appropriate for our school community.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy

- Equality Information and Objectives statement
- Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy