



UNIFORM POLICY

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Next Review: April 2022

It is our policy that all children at Highfields Primary School should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our school website.

Aims of the policy

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- Is practical and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Is not distracting in class
- Can make children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind

Uniform Guidance

Jewellery and Make up

On health and safety grounds, we allow children to wear a watch and stud earrings only – The only exceptions to this rule are small objects of religious significance or items worn due to a medical need. No jewellery is to be worn for PE. (If a child cannot remove their earrings for a set period, they may be covered by micro pore tape provided from home so the child can participate in P.E.)

In the case of a child who wears jewellery to alert a medical need, the staff delivering the P.E. session will have a thorough understanding of the child's needs should a medical emergency arise.

No make-up is to be worn to school by any pupil. This includes nail varnish and any form of artificial nail. If a child comes to school with make up or nail varnish they will be asked to ensure that the following day they do not wear make-up or nail varnish. If they persist, then home will be contacted via a letter or phone call asking for co-operation with the uniform policy. Children are also discouraged from having temporary tattoos.

Extreme Haircuts/Hairstyles

The school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. We do not encourage tramlines, patterns cut into hair, hair extensions and hair dyes of extreme colour. We also ask that children with long hair tie their hair up with plain coloured hairbands or Alice bands.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles, slip on shoes or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. In Summer, we will allow white sandals with an ankle strap and heel support. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. Children who wear trainers to school will be asked to return the following day in school shoes, or to provide a letter from their parents/carers reasoning the need for trainers.

The Role of Staff

Staff are expected to dress appropriately and smartly. Denim and casual wear (including leggings) are not considered appropriate. Underwear should not be visible at any time and for this reason vest tops and tops with spaghetti straps should not be worn in school (or the straps of these covered by another top.) Opaque tights should be worn under shorter skirts. Any tattoos should be covered where possible.

Sports clothes (trainers, track suits etc.) should not be worn to school except for during PE lessons. All teaching and support staff should wear PE kit for PE lessons with the children. (Please see school's health and safety policy for more information on this).

The Role of Parents

We ask all parents to support the school uniform policy when they send their children to Highfields as parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. We encourage parents to name all items of uniform either with indelible pen or sewn/iron in labels. If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Head teacher.

If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Head teacher.

The Role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Head teacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

When monitoring this policy, the Governing Body will:

- Consider with the Head teacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations
- Require the Head teacher to report to the governors on the way in which the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every **two** years.

General Data Protection Regulation

The General Data Protection Regulation provides a framework to ensure that personal information is handled properly. Personal information in school is managed in accordance with the requirements of the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR). For further details of how we manage personal data, please see our privacy notice, which can be found on our school website <http://www.highfields.sandwell.sch.uk/our-school/3980-privacy-statement.html>. School's Data Protection Policy and Records Management Policy can also be found on our website.