



**SWARLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
**"The Best That We Can Be"**  
**Uniform Policy**



**Introduction**

At Swarland Primary School we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours. We ask children to take a pride in their personal appearance.

We believe 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.

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

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'

**Aims and objectives**

We believe that wearing a school uniform:

Promotes a sense of pride in our school and establishes the right ethos.

Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school  
Improves behaviour and a sense of belonging and identity.  
Supports the school's commitment to inclusion  
Is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind  
Is considered to be good value for money and affordable for parents and carers.  
Should never be a barrier to accessing the best possible education

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

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.
- Naming all items of uniform.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our lost property to wear for that day if possible. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit. Parents may be contacted to discuss the matter.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community

### Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
- Looked After Children

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils to a minimum where possible to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Branded items are not essential.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible and does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.

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

### Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in this policy.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression in line with the LGBTQ+ Policy.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

### Uniform assistance

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. To claim school uniform assistance, parents should be eligible for FSM. Eligibility is determined by checking original documents from the relevant authority, detailing receipt of the benefit and the address of the pupil.

Families who meet the criteria should contact the school office for further assistance.

The school holds second-hand school uniforms in the school office for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the headteacher. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

### Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For many reasons, including safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears and watches (not smart watches). Children are required to remove any items during P.E. lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note that teachers are not permitted to remove earrings.

Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either dark red, navy or black to match our uniform. Hair bands should not have large flowers or other decoration attached.

Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school.

Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have hair coloured or dyed.

### Footwear

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels or boots. All children are required to wear plain black shoes without logos.

As all children take part in Forest School as part of their curriculum, it is also important for all children to have a named pair of wellies which are kept in school.

### Monitoring and Review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform.

## School Uniform List

The school uniform at Swarland Primary School consists of:

Red jumpers and cardigans with optional embroidered school logo

Plain white shirt or polo shirt (Long or short Sleeved)

Navy shorts or trousers- when shorts are worn, they should also be of an appropriate length  
Navy or grey pinafores or skirts -please note skirts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows sitting comfortably on the floor.

In summer, blue and white or red and white checked dresses are permitted.

Navy, red or white socks or tights.

Plain black shoes - no trainers, boots or fashion shoes

Items with the school logo can be purchased from Emblematic via their website <https://studentuniform.co.uk/scfs101/> Other items can be bought from High Street shops and supermarkets. Items of uniform do not need to be branded with the school logo. This is parental choice.

## P.E. Kit

Children need a change of clothes and footwear for P.E (for health and hygiene reasons) and a draw-string bag in which to keep the kit at school. PE kit and PE bags may be bought from Emblematic. All school uniform and P.E. kit MUST be named. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing; please help us by naming everything.

P.E. Uniform is:

White ankle socks

Navy shorts (NOT cycling shorts) - summer

Navy jogging bottoms - winter

Red or white t-shirt/polo shirt

A pair of plimsolls/ pumps/trainers - velcro fastenings are essential for children for indoor P.E. in the hall and outdoors.

For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings for PE. Your child's teacher will advise you when PE lessons take place so that earrings can be removed.

## Forest School Kit

All our children take part in Forest School lessons. These lessons take place outdoors and therefore require suitable clothing to keep children safe and warm. To get the most out of

these experiences children should not be worried about getting these clothes muddy or dirty.

Children will require:

Long-sleeved t-shirt, to prevent scratches or stings.

Comfortable long trousers, to prevent scratches or stings.

Wellies - waterproof and comfortable is essential.

In cold or wet weather- waterproofs, warm jogging bottoms a hat, gloves, and a warm coat.

Don't forget to layer up! You can always remove items if needed.

In warm or sunny weather, a top to cover shoulder, optional sunhat, sun cream.

### Other Uniform Items

Any Coat

Badged book bags are available

This policy will be reviewed regularly in light of updated guidance.

<b>Revision Record of Issued Versions</b>			
<b>Author</b>	<b>Creation Date</b>	<b>Version</b>	<b>Status</b>
Louise Fletcher	24.11.21	1.0	Pending staff consultation
Louise Fletcher	15.02.22	1.0	Agreed by Governors
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