



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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

- From 1 September 2026, Parsons Down Partnership will comply with the statutory limit on compulsory branded school uniform and PE kit. As a primary school, we will not require pupils to have more than **three different compulsory branded items** of school uniform and PE kit over the course of the school year.
- The limit applies to branded items required for general school use, travelling to or from school, PE and sport, and participation in any lesson, club, activity or event facilitated by the school. This includes items that may only be required for part of the school year.
- A branded item is an item with the school name or logo, or an item with distinctive characteristics such as a unique colour, design or fabric that means it is not widely available from a range of retailers.
- Where a branded item is offered as an **optional** item, a suitable non-branded alternative will be available where required. The school will keep both compulsory and optional branded items to a minimum.
- Our school has a duty to ensure that the uniform we require is affordable and provides good value for money, in accordance with the Department for Education's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms.
- We recognise that requiring distinctive or branded items can restrict parents/carers' ability to shop around and may increase the cost of school uniform. We will therefore prioritise affordable, durable and good-quality items and regularly consider whether branded items remain necessary.
- We will ensure that our uniform:
 - is available at a reasonable cost;
 - provides good value for money for parents/carers;
 - uses generic items wherever possible;
 - limits compulsory branded items to no more than three across school uniform and PE kit;
 - avoids unnecessary requirements for branded coats, bags and other items that pupils may use outside school;
 - keeps optional branded items to a minimum;
 - avoids different uniform requirements for different year groups, classes or houses wherever possible;
 - avoids additional uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities;
 - considers low-cost alternatives for identifying groups during interschool competitions and events;
 - has arrangements in place for parents/carers to access second-hand uniform;
 - avoids frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimises the financial impact of any changes; and
 - involves consultation with parents/carers and pupils where significant changes to the uniform policy are proposed.
- The school will also consider the impact of uniform requirements on equality, inclusion, pupil wellbeing and attendance and will make reasonable adjustments where appropriate.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Children at Parsons Down Partnership wear school uniform. This supports the pride that we have for our school. The Governors have created our uniform so that it is smart, recognisable and affordable. Please ensure that all items are named. Please see below for details:

Red sweatshirt with a V-neck and school logo or red cardigan with a school logo (non-logo items are also acceptable)

White polo shirts at the Infant school

White shirts/blouses or polo shirts at the Junior School (it is not a requirement to have a polo shirt, shirt or blouse with the logo on)

Grey trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafores

Red gingham summer dresses

Grey or black tights or white, grey or black socks

School shoes should be black. For Health and Safety reasons shoes should fit securely and have a low heel. Trainers will not be allowed. Children are able to wear any colour coat or hat to school.

P.E. and Summer Games:

- Plain black or navy shorts
- Plain white T-shirts
- Plimsolls or training shoes are essential for outdoor PE.

(Most indoor work is done barefoot, but if your child has a medical condition which could be contagious, please ensure he/she comes with plimsolls).

Winter Games:

- Plain black or navy shorts or tracksuit and white t-shirt.
- Plain black or navy sweatshirt or sports top.
- Suitable footwear for wet ground.

Swimming:

- Swimming hat.
- A one-piece swimming costume or swimming trunks.
- A towel.

Goggles are not compulsory, but they must be the correct size and conform to safety standards for surface swimming goggles.

Outdoor Learning:

Outdoor learning is an important part of the Parsons Down curriculum. Children in Foundation Stage and Year 1 need wellies and waterproofs in school and for Welly Wednesday they need appropriate clothes according to the weather conditions eg trousers, long tshirts

Children in Years 2 to 6 will be advised if they need different clothes for outdoor learning and parents will be advised with plenty of notice.

Jewellery

Jewellery should not be worn to school. Stud earrings and watches are permitted but not for PE.

Hair

Hair styles should be suitable for school. For health and safety reasons, long hair should be tied back away from the face. This is particularly important for P.E. lessons. Hair bands and Alice bands should be plain black, red or brown.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- The majority of our uniform is non branded and can be purchased from local supermarkets, online and in high street stores.
- The Parsons Down Schools Association (PDSA) have a stock of second-hand items which are sold throughout the year at PDSA events.
- The red logo sweatshirts/cardigans, along with other items of uniform, are available from the Skoolkit store in Newbury:

Skoolkit

40 East Street

Parkway Shopping

Newbury

RG14 1AY

01635 226703

You can now also purchase uniform online at skoolkit.co.uk

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 (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 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

Parents/carers 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/carers 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/carers 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.

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/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The 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 biennially and at every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality policy, information and objectives
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy