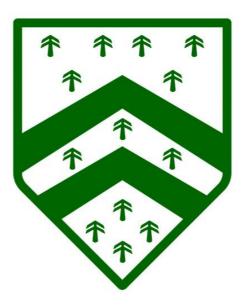
# School uniform policy

Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School



## **Our Vision Statement:**

At Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School, everything we do, we do with love, always staying true to our IDEALS:

We **inquire** about the wonderful world God has created to **discover** and develop the gifts God has given us. We **encourage** each other and build each other up to **achieve** our full potential. We stay true to what is right: **loving** our neighbour as ourselves. We walk out into the world **shining** as a light for other people, knowing that God gives us the strength to make all things possible and create a positive difference in our community.

## Our Wellbeing Statement:

At Bishop's Tachbrook CE Primary School, we understand the importance of children's social and emotional development, including their mental health and wellbeing .

Children need to feel safe, valued, happy and well (physically and mentally) to be able to embrace their learning and achieve well. We aim to support children to develop an understanding of their own emotions and to learn ways they can respond to their feelings appropriately, whilst recognising their early warning signs and knowing when to ask for help.

Approved by:

Last reviewed on: Sept 2024

Next review due by: Sept 2026

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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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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, 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 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 the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

# 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 <u>guidance</u> 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:

- > Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- > Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- > Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as plain green jumpers and cardigans.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items 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
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as wearing bibs
- > Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- > Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- > Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

# 4. Expectations for school uniform

# 4.1 Our school's uniform

- > Mid grey/black skirt or trousers (not leggings)
- > White/green polo shirt (with or without school logo)
- > Bottle Green jumper or cardigan (with or without school logo)
- > Bottle green fleece (as an optional alternative to a jumper/cardigan in winter if preferred)
- > White, grey or black socks
- > Black, grey or bottle green tights
- > Black shoes (NOT boots or sandals)

#### PE Kit:

- > Black shorts
- > Bottle green PE top, t-shirt or polo shirt
- > Plain black tracksuit bottoms/leggings (NOT brightly coloured leggings)
- > Trainers
- > In summer baseball cap or hat
- > Swimming costume/trunks and towel will be required for swimming lessons in KS2

#### Jewellery and hair styles

- > For Health and Safety reasons, we do not allow jewellery to be worn in school. Children with pierced ears are permitted to wear one pair of small stud earrings (silver or gold). Should a child lose an earring or incur any injury as a result of wearing these, the school will not be held responsible.
- > Nail varnish is not acceptable for children at school.
- > Tattoo transfers are not permitted to be worn in school.

> For Health and Safety reasons, long hair should be tied back with a small bobble/scrunchie. Clip in bows and other hair decorations are not permitted.

If parents need to discuss any of these arrangements with school, please contact us as adaptations can be made on an individual basis.

Children will be expected to bring a warm coat in winter, preferably waterproof.

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

Add details including:

- > Uniform can be purchased from high street retailers or supermarkets.
- ➤ Uniform with logos can be purchased from <a href="https://myclothing.com/collections/bishops-tachbrook-cofe-primary-school-8120">https://myclothing.com/collections/bishops-tachbrook-cofe-primary-school-8120</a>
- ➤ The PTA have a large selection of second-hand uniform available for a donation. They can be contacted for information on: http://bit.ly/BTPTAUniform
- > PE tops can be purchased from Akuma through the school office.

# 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 are also expected to contact the head teacher 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 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 every 4 years by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

# 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- > Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statement
- > Anti-bullying policy
- > Complaints policy