



Reviewed on:	November 2024
Reviewed:	Annually
Staff Responsibility:	Headteacher/ DSLs & DDSLs/ SENDCOs

School Uniform Policy



Russell Street School children are **STARS** - Safe, Together, Achieve, Resilient, Special.

SAFE

'We all have the right to feel safe all the time.
Nothing is so awful or so small that we cannot talk about it.'
(RSS iSafe Programme).

TOGETHER

Highly supportive relationships are established based on mutual respect.
Children make a positive contribution to society.
They understand their rights and responsibilities as citizens and respect the beliefs and values of others.

ACHIEVE

Children achieve the best possible outcomes through the delivery of an exciting, ambitious curriculum built around progressive new skills and knowledge acquisition.

Children have a strong desire to learn more and acquire the knowledge and cultural capital they need to succeed in life.

RESILIENT

Children demonstrate high levels of self-determination and control.
Through a growth mindset attitude, children believe the impossible is possible.

SPECIAL

Children have access to a wide, rich set of experiences and have frequent opportunities to develop their talents and interests.
Children feel an important sense of worth and belonging ensuring good mental health and well-being.

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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 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

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items

4. Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform (website overview) including where to purchase items

The school's uniform is as follows:

- Navy sweatshirts / cardigans (a logo is not required).
- White or light blue polo shirts.
- Grey, navy or black 'bottoms', e.g. trousers, shorts, pinafores, skirts.
- In the summer an optional extra of blue gingham dresses.
- Sensible **dark** footwear (flat and closed toed).
- A change of clothes for P.E. – plimsolls or trainers, black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms and a white t-shirt.
- No jewellery, other than plain stud earrings which should be taped on P.E. days.

Logo versions of school sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts are available from Maisie's in Wolverton. <https://www.maisies-superstore.co.uk>

Second-hand uniform is available from the School Office for a small donation. If you have any items of uniform to donate, please take these to the School Office.

Please speak in confidence to the School Office if you need items of uniform at no cost. We will happily provide these.

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 adaptation of 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 adaptation of 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 their parents/carers 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 yearly.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our: Behaviour policy, Equality information and objectives statement, Complaints policy