

Hopton CEVC Primary School School Uniform Policy



Approved by: The Full Governing Body

The Governing Body of Hopton CEVC Primary School adopted this policy

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At Hopton CEVC Primary School we live out the words of Jesus in Matthew 19 vs 26 'With God all things are possible'. We raise aspirations and encourage perseverance to reach goals in life and learning

1) Introduction.

Here at Hopton CEVC Primary School we strongly believe that it is important for the school to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:

- Promoting the ethos of the school
- Providing a sense of belonging and identity
- Setting the appropriate tone for the school.

By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. If, however, the uniform is too expensive it can place an unreasonable burden on families. Furthermore, if a distinction can be made between those who can afford it and those who cannot, this can reduce the benefits of a uniform and has the potential to negatively impact attendance, access and participation, and lead to bullying.

Parents should not have to think about the cost of a school uniform when choosing which school(s) to apply for. No school uniform should be so expensive as to leave pupils or their families feeling unable to apply to, or attend, a school of their choice. Therefore, schools need to ensure that their uniforms are affordable.

2) Religion or Beliefs

Some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. Pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief, but not necessarily at all times, places or in a particular manner.

Where a school has good reason for restricting an individual's freedoms, for example, the promotion of cohesion and good order in the school, or genuine health and safety or security considerations, the restriction of an individual's rights to manifest their religion or belief may be justified.

Schools should be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and act reasonably in accommodating these needs, without compromising important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. It should be possible for most religious requirements to be met within a school uniform policy and a governing board should act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating these.

3) Discrimination

To avoid discriminating against those who share particular protected characteristics, governing boards should aim for their uniform policy to be as inclusive as possible

Schools should engage with parents and pupils when developing their uniform policy to ensure that it is suitable for their school community, recognising that their school community may change over time.

Even when a policy has been agreed, schools should be willing to allow for some individual variations to their uniform policy, where necessary to avoid indirect discrimination. For instance, reasonable adjustments must be made, as appropriate, for pupils with a disability.

4) Changing the school uniform

Where the school deems it fit to change the school uniform it will ensure

- They avoid frequent changes.
- Uniform specifications secures the best value for money
- Minimalise the financial change that is required
- There is a reasonable period of time where the child is allowed to wear the old uniform where the new one is filtered in,
- The views of the parents and carers are taken into account.

5) Arranging for the supply of uniforms

Cost and value for money for parents should be the most important consideration for governing boards when considering how school uniforms should be sourced. Parents should be able to purchase generic items of uniform from a range of retailers giving them choice and value for money.

Where a school's uniform policy includes a branded item, the governing board should ensure a written contract is in place with their supplier for these items.

Governing boards should be able to demonstrate that they have obtained the best value for money from suppliers. Any savings negotiated with suppliers should be passed on to parents. Governing boards should not enter into cashback arrangements.

Governing boards should ensure that suppliers continue to provide good value for money throughout the duration of the contract.

Single supplier contracts should be avoided unless regular tendering competitions are run where more than one supplier can compete for the contract and where the best value is secured. This contract should be retendered at least every 5 years. Reviewing a policy does not necessarily have to result in changes being made.

As a general rule, the value of the contract will determine the type of procurement procedure a school needs to undertake. The higher the value of the contract the more rigorous the tender process will need to be. For example, this might range from seeking 3 quotes for low-value contracts to a full tendering exercise for high-value ones.

6) Pupils attending more than one school

Where a pupil is attending 2 settings as part of a regular educational programme, the school to which the pupil is registered should consider how it can support them with uniform for the other setting.

7) Cost considerations

Here at Hopton CEVC Primary School we feel it is very important that children wear the prescribed school uniform in order to act as a social leveller, this is inclusive of footwear expected from the school.

In order to give parents options in prices we have sources our uniform through two different sources. These are

- **My Clothing** www.myclothing.com
- **School Trends** www.schooltrends.co.uk

Alternatively, parents can buy in any high street store. Children are not expected to wear logoed items to school, but are required to stay with the school colour palette which is on the website. We wish for all children to look smart and in unison to avoid any peer pressure.

8) School Uniform Requirements

School Uniform

Hopton School crew neck sweatshirt or cardigan (Navy)	Optional
A plain crew neck sweatshirt of cardigan (Navy)	Required
Grey long or short trousers	Required
Grey skirt	Required
Blue / white gingham pinafore dress (Summer)	Optional
Blue polo shirt with Hopton logo	Optional
Blue polo shirt	Required
Smart black shoes	Required
Grey or white socks	Required
Grey tights	Required
Book bag with logo	Given in Reception

PE uniform

Hopton logo t- shirt	Optional
Plain blue t-shirt	Required

Navy blue PE shorts / trousers	Required
Black plimsolls or trainers (NOT lace up) with non-marking soles	Required
PE bag with logo	Optional

** During Covid 19 children have been encouraged to wear their PE kits to school. In this cases a tracksuit has been permitted. The tracksuit needs to be black or blue.

Shoes:

- Children are required to wear **smart** black school shoes, during the school day. These are denoted as a more formal shoe, and not a trainer.
- At times where the weather deteriorates the children may be requested to being in suitable shoes for outside (especially when playing football at lunch)
- Children are asked to wear plimsolls or trainers for PE. The PE teacher will allow parents to know which will be more appropriate.

No jewellery should be worn in school. Your child is able to wear a watch (excluding SMART watches) but school does not take responsibility for the item)

If your child has pierced ears, small studs are permitted. However, these **MUST** be removed by the child for PE; if this is not possible then tape should be provided for the child to cover the stud.

Hairstyling:

All shoulder length / long hair must be tied back using a sensible hair accessory.

9) Provision of second hand uniform

The school hold a collection of second hand uniform should you require some support with any items. This is available on request. The Friends of Hopton Primary school also hold termly uniform and swap sales, which can be accessed by all year groups.

Hopton CEVC Primary welcomes any donations of used uniforms to support the community.

10) Other support with the cost of school uniform,

We may be able to offer you further support with obtaining your uniform through other schemes the school is involved with.

11) Complaints

Disputes about the cost of school uniforms should be resolved locally and should be pursued in accordance with the school's complaints policy. In law, governing boards must have a complaints procedure in place to deal with issues such as a complaint about school uniforms.

Parents should be able to lodge their complaints or objections easily. We expect the governing board to consult and work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

If a school has in place a contract with a specific supplier, the governing board should ensure that the supplier has an agreed procedure to deal with complaints about the supply and quality of uniforms.

12) Pupil non- compliance

Teachers can discipline pupils for breaching the school's rules on appearance or uniform. This should be carried out in accordance with the school's published behaviour policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with a school's published uniform policy, we would expect schools to take a mindful and considerate approach to resolve the situation.