



WEST RISE

WEST RISE JUNIOR SCHOOL

POLICY: UNIFORM POLICY

Original Date of Policy: September 2022

Ratified by Governors: 3rd October 2022

Reviewed:

Signed: S. Poore

Review Date: October 2024

At West Rise Junior School we inspire and empower independent and creative learners who will continue to enrich their lives and those of others within a culture of high achievement and mutual respect.

At West Rise Junior School we aim to identify and support all pupils following guidance laid out in the East Sussex and West Rise Junior Dyslexia Policy.

West Rise Junior School is a Rights Respecting School and puts the articles of the Unicef Children's Rights Charter at the heart of all school policy. This policy reflects that as a school we recognise that all children have the right to be safe, be educated and learn, be treated fairly, be listened to, a healthy lifestyle, extra support if they need it and a right to join in cultural and artistic activities.

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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 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 School Office, 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 [guidance](#) 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
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- › Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as PE kit
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- › Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities such as
- › 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
- › School Community t shirts will be used for our Community Days, at least once a term. These are provided free of charge to the children

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Sweatshirts, cardigans and T shirts with logos can be ordered online via the link on the school website. We have samples in school if you would like to check the sizes before you order.

The school colour is Kingfisher and consists of:

- Grey or black shorts or trousers
- Grey or black skirt (straight or pleated – no more than 2" above or below the knee) or pinafore dress
- White polo shirt
- Kingfisher coloured sweatshirt or cardigan
- Black shoes (not boots) – heels not over 1"

Summer Uniform:

- Blue/white gingham or striped dress

Leggings and skinny jeans are NOT acceptable as school uniform.

For reasons of safety and hygiene children need to be able to change for PE lessons. Children who do not bring their P.E kit will still have an active involvement in the lesson where possible. Children without a PE kit on two consecutive sessions will receive a detention.

P.E kit:

- White T shirt with West Rise logo or plain white T shirt
- Black shorts/leggings/jogging bottom
- Plimsols or trainers

Earrings including studs, have to either removed or covered for P.E lessons. No child should wear jewellery except studs or a watch unless this is for religious purposes.

Hair does not need to be tied up except for P.E and any other lesson where there may be a health and safety risk e.g. making fires in Forest School.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Sweatshirts, cardigans and P.E T shirts with logo can be ordered online via the link on the school website. White T shirts, polo shirts, trousers, shorts and dresses can be purchased locally.

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 School Office 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 School Office 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 Governing Body 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 two years. 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
- Complaints policy