



## BUSBRIDGE CE (Aided) JUNIOR SCHOOL

### Uniform Policy



This policy was written and approved by the Governing Body in the Spring term 2023

It will be reviewed annually.

#### **Our School Vision Statement**

To be a school that reflects the love of Christ: **cherishing** each other as unique individuals and **challenging** all to achieve and succeed.

#### **Aims and Objectives:**

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

#### **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 a member of the school's Senior Leadership Team, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

#### **Ensuring uniform is affordable**

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 and 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 items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

### **Our School Uniform**

- Royal blue pullover or cardigan with the school logo on.
- Mid grey trousers, shorts, skirt or tunic
- Pale blue and white check, dress (Summer term)
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain grey, white or black socks or navy/grey/black tights
- Sensible and smart brown or black footwear (not trainers or boots)

### **PE kit**

- Navy blue shorts or skorts
- Royal blue t-shirt with the school logo on
- trainers
- School PE sweatshirt with logo
- Plain navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms or leggings. These should be plain navy or black with no logos or branding.

### **Where to purchase our uniform.**

Our uniform is supplied by Valentinos School wear. <https://www.valentinoschoolwear.com/>

We ask parents to ensure that **all items of school uniform and equipment are clearly labelled with the child's name**. The PTA have an account with a name label company, Stikins, and earn commission if parents choose this name label provider. Alternatives, such as handwriting a child's name in with a permanent pen, are also an option.

The Friends of Busbridge CofE Junior School run a second hand uniform service. Parents can [2ndhanduniform@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk](mailto:2ndhanduniform@busbridge-junior.surrey.sch.uk) to make enquiries. The PTA try to provide opportunities throughout the year to buy uniform in person as well.

## **Jewellery**

For those children with pierced ears, we ask that only stud earrings are worn. These must be removed for PE lessons. As a school, we do not allow children to take part in PE with plasters over their earrings.

We therefore ask that parents do not take their children to get their ears pierced during term time as this means that if they can't take the earrings out, they can't access the PE curriculum. The ideal time to do this would therefore be at the start of the summer holidays, as the break is long enough to allow time for the piercings to heal before the children return to school in September.

Watches can be worn but must be named as they are also removed for PE. Fitness trackers may be worn as long as any internet capability is disabled prior to them being brought to school. There may be occasions where staff ask children to remove these for safety reasons. School cannot accept any liability for the loss of or damage to these watches. Children are strictly forbidden from using any photo or video functions on these devices whilst at school.

## **Nail Varnish/ Make up**

It is our school policy that make up or nail varnish should not be worn during the school day and should be removed before coming to school if worn for a special occasion outside of school.

## **Hair**

Long hair should be tied back at all times during the school day. Long hair is defined as hair that is long enough to be tied back.

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)

There may be 'non-uniform' days as part of the school week. Parents will be informed prior to any non-uniform days.

## **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 a member of the School's Leadership Team 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 and dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

**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 a member of the school's Senior Leadership Team.

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.

**Governors**

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it is appropriate for our school's context and is implemented fairly across the school.

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

**Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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