

Rainow Primary School

Caring, Learning, Achieving.

School Uniform Policy

Members of staff responsible:	Headteacher
Date approved by Governors:	Spring 2024
Date to be reviewed:	Spring 2027

1. Introduction

School uniform is not compulsory at Rainow Primary School. However, we do encourage the wearing of uniform to create a sense of belonging to our community. To keep costs low and minimise environmental impact, we promote donating unwanted uniform to friends and family.

2. Aims

- 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.

3. 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 gender identity.

- 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 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 any questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

4. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform 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
- making the wearing of items with the school logo on non-compulsory
- allowing the wearing of cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- 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
- no difference in uniform requirements for different years
- avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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
- promoting donating unwanted or outgrown uniform to friends and family via the Friends of Rainow School (our PTA), and / or class WhatsApp groups.

5. Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform can be found on the school's website [here](#). No child has to wear any branded items but these are available.

Uniform

- sensible shoes or closed-toe sandals
- grey or black trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- white polo shirt
- green cardigan, vee-neck jumper or round neck sweatshirt
- green and white summer dresses (may be worn in warm weather only)

PE kit:

- trainers
- white tee-shirt
- black shorts and/or
- black leggings and/or
- jogging bottoms
- green PE hoodie

Swimming kit:

- trunks / swimming costume. (Year 3)

Class teachers will inform parents / carers of the days when PE kit will be worn or swimming kit is needed. On the designated days children should come to school dressed in their PE kit. A PE hoodie/jumper/cardigan should still be worn on PE days.

5.1 Where to purchase it

- You can purchase new uniform from [Classworx](#) who stock items with our school logo.
- Any local supermarket for non-branded items.
- Information about second-hand uniform via the FRS and / or parent WhatsApp groups.

6. Expectations for our school community

6.1 Pupils

Pupils are encouraged to wear the school uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- on the school premises
- at out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils should contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

6.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are encouraged to make sure their child wears school uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- clean
- clearly labelled with the child's name
- in good condition

Parents should contact the Headteacher 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 may lodge complaints or objections relating to the school uniform. 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.

6.3 Staff

Staff will encourage pupils to wear school uniform.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not having school uniform, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation, including where appropriate, financial support from the school.

6.4 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
- considers 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.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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