

EXCALIBUR PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

The School Uniform Policy in respect of Excalibur Primary School has been discussed and adopted by the Governing Body

Chair of Governors

Gill Burgess

Head Teacher:

Juliet Jones

Ratified at the meeting of Full Governing Body on: 27th June 2022

To be reviewed June 2024

Statement of Intent

At Excalibur Primary School, we are committed to promoting equality and value for money, and to ensuring that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

This policy has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure pupils wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment.

It is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform. We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports-specific attire.

School Uniform Policy

1. Legal Framework

- 1.1 This policy has true regard to all the relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
 - Education Act 2011
 - Human Rights Act 1998
 - Equality Act 2010
 - The General Data Protection Regulation
 - Data Protection Act 2018
- 1.2 This policy has true regard to all the relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:
- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
 - DfE (2013) 'School Uniform'
 - DfE (2021) Education (Guidance about costs of school uniforms) Act 2021
- 1.3 This policy operated in conjunction with the following school and trust policies and documents:
- Complaints Procedures Policy
 - Behaviour Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

- 2.1 The governing board is responsible for:
- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
 - Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
 - Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
 - Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
 - Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.
- 2.2 Headteacher is responsible for:
- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
 - Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
 - Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
 - Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.
- 2.3 Teachers and staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Discussing with pupils the correct uniform to be worn according to this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

2.4 Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

2.5 Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost and Availability

- 3.1 In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the school ensures that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.
- 3.2 The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.
- 3.3 The school works with suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible.
- 3.4 The school does not enter into cash-back arrangements.
- 3.5 The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms
- 3.6 Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents struggling to meet the associated costs.

4. Religious clothing

- 4.1 Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community.
- 4.2 The school endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met where possible.
- 4.3 Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

5. Equality

- 5.1 The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.
- 5.2 Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of our uniform are not disproportionate.
- 5.3 The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.
- 5.4 Pupils identifying as a member of the opposite sex are able to adapt uniform regulations.

6. Complaints and Challenges

- 6.1 The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- 6.2 To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.
- 6.3 When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- 6.4 Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

7. School Uniform Supplier

- 7.1 Our school uniform supplier is: **Smart Choice Uniform, 63 Crewe Road, Alsager. Telephone 01270 747170.**
- 7.2 Second hand uniform is available from Alsager Community Support Centre on the Fairview/Civic car park. Volunteers run a pre-owned school uniform scheme, which is open to everybody and covers all schools. You can either visit the centre or complete the order form below and send it by email to uniform@alsagercommunitysupport.org.uk

8. Uniform assistance

- 8.1 The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms.
- 8.2 To claim school uniform assistance, parents should be eligible for FSM.
- 8.3 Families who meet the criteria should call or ask at the school office.
- 8.4 The budget for the school uniform assistance scheme comes from pupil premium funds.

9. Non-compliance

- 9.1 Teachers discuss and uniform issues with pupils
- 9.2 The headteacher will be referred to by the staff if the event of uncertainty.

10. School Colours

10.1 Our school colour is Royal Blue.

11. The Uniform

11.1 The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

11.2 Pupils who identify as the opposite sex to their birth sex are permitted to wear the uniform of their preferred gender

11.3 Winter Uniform:

- Grey skirt/trousers
- White polo shirts or white shirts
- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- White, grey or black socks or tights
- Black shoes – Please ensure that footwear is suitable for the rigours of a school day. Fashion shoes, boots and shoes with high heels are a safety risk and trainers, besides making feet sweat, do not give growing feet the necessary support.

11.4 Summer Uniform:

- Grey shorts, blue/white dresses and white polo shirt.
- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan
- White, grey or black socks or tights
- Black shoes – Please ensure that footwear is suitable for the rigours of a school day. Fashion shoes, boots and shoes with high heels are a safety risk and trainers, besides making feet sweat, do not give growing feet the necessary support.

11.5 PE Kit

- White t-shirt, royal blue shorts, royal blue sweatshirt/fleece and blue or black joggers.
- Trainers are recommended for outdoor work as they provide more grip and protection than black pumps. As the children get older and play more structured games football boots may be more suitable.
- Bare feet are used for indoor work, if your child does need to wear footwear for any reason then please supply black pumps.

11.6 Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

12. Jewellery

12.1 The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.
- A sensible wrist watch – no smart watches permitted.

12.2 Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

12.3 All jewellery must be removed (covered up in the case of newly pierced ears) during PE and swimming lessons

13. School Bag

- 13.1 Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold A4-sized work books comfortably without causing any damage.
- 13.2 School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.
- 13.3 The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

14. Hairstyles

- 14.1 The school reserves the right to make a judgement on the suitability of pupils' hair and appearance.
- 14.2 Extreme hairstyles are unacceptable.
- 14.3 Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds, taking into consideration each individual pupil's scenario.
- 14.4 Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk.
- 14.5 Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.
- 14.6 Headbands and/or flowers/bows or excessive hair accessories are not to be worn; however, plain hair clips or bands are acceptable.

15. Make-Up

- 15.1 Only clear nail varnish may be worn.
- 15.2 No pupil is allowed to wear make-up.
- 15.3 Pupils wearing make-up are required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it.
- 15.4 There may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances, at the headteacher's discretion, e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

16. Adverse Weather

- 16.1 Everyone working at/attending the school during hot weather conditions is required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible.
- 16.2 In accordance with this policy and expectations of uniform, this includes wearing:
 - Loose fitting shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
 - Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
 - Tops that cover the shoulder area.
- 16.3 During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are advised not to wear their jumpers during heatwaves.
- 16.4 If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.
- 16.5 During cold weather, pupils are able to wear scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.

17. Labelling

- 17.1 All pupils' clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with their name.
- 17.2 Any lost clothing is be taken to the school office. All lost property is retained until the end of each half term and unnamed items are disposed of or recycled if it is not collected within this time.

18. Monitoring and review

- 18.1 This policy is reviewed every two years by the chair of governors and the headteacher.
- 18.2 The scheduled review date for this policy is every 2 years