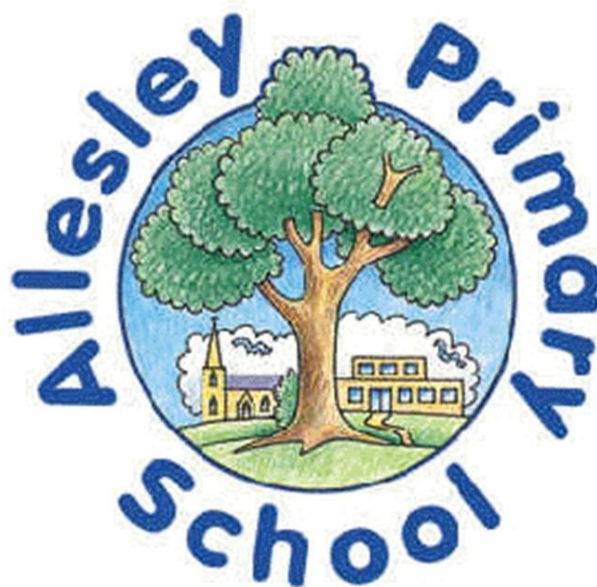


School Uniform Policy



Approved by:

Governing Body

**Date: 23rd January
2023**

**Next review due
by:**

Spring Term 2025

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 their child's class teacher, 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 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

- No branded items of uniform are mandatory; however, most children wear a blue sweatshirt with the school logo and have a logo on their PE hoodie or t-shirt. All branded second-hand uniform items can be bought at an affordable price from our school PTA.
- The school accepts generic uniform clothing items such as plain blue sweatshirts and cardigans which are available at a reasonable cost from high street stores and supermarkets allowing parents the opportunity to shop around for best value.
- Generic items from supermarkets are acceptable for PE uniform items. School logo branded PE hoodie and PE T-shirt can be bought from local suppliers or through our school's PTA used uniform sales.
- We do not allow children to wear items of jewellery due to safety concerns, the exception to this rule are ear-ring studs. If parents have a particular concern regarding this, the headteacher and senior leadership team will work with the parents and children to find a suitable solution.
- We ask that long hair is tied up during PE or certain curriculum activities for health and safety reasons. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school and styling should be kept to a minimum so that children can independently take care of their own hair.
- Children should wear suitable black footwear. Footwear should have grip on the sole of the shoe to prevent slips and trips. As children spend a lot of time outdoors, children may be requested to bring in old footwear to change into to prevent school shoes getting muddy.
- There are no specific uniform guidelines for bags and coats. When purchasing coats parents may wish to consider visibility, especially if children walk or cycle to school. Many of the school cloakrooms have limited space, so please do not buy over size bags as we do not have the room to accommodate them. For younger children, school logo book bags can be purchased from the schools uniform supplier, or second hand bags from the PTA, but this is not mandatory.
- **We ask parents to ensure uniform items are clean, in good repair and all items are clearly labelled with the child's name.**

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform Item	New from Andy Blair School wear or The School Wear Company	PTA Used uniform Sales	Generic Items from high street stores / supermarkets
Royal Blue Sweatshirt or cardigan	Logo sweatshirts and cardigans can be purchased from either school wear supplier	Used Logo sweatshirts and cardigans are available from the PTA £2 each	Non-logo royal blue sweatshirts and cardigans can be purchased from many high street stores and supermarkets
White polo shirt or long or short sleeved shirt with a collar	Logo polo shirts are available from school wear suppliers	Occasionally used Logo polo shirts are available from the PTA subject to availability	Non-logo shirts can be purchased from high street stores and supermarkets
Grey / Black trousers or shorts	N/A	Occasionally available free of charge through PTA donated items	Available in high street stores and supermarkets
Grey / Black skirt or pinafore dresses	N/A	Occasionally available free of charge through PTA donated items	Available in high street stores and supermarkets
White / grey / black socks or grey / black tights	N/A	N/A	Available in high street stores and supermarkets
Coat	Logo coats are available from either school wear supplier	Occasionally used coats are available from the PTA subject to availability £7	Any coat acceptable, please consider visibility and waterproof qualities
School bags	Book bags with school logo available from school wear suppliers	Occasionally used book bags are available from the PTA subject to availability	Any school bags acceptable. Please avoid oversize bags due to school storage
School Shoes	N/A	N/A	Plain black comfortable shoes with good grip on sole for safety
PE Hoodie	Logo PE hoodies are available from either school wear supplier	Used Logo PE hoodies are available from the PTA £7 each	Non-logo royal blue sweatshirts and hoodies can be purchased from many high street stores and supermarkets

PE T-shirt	Logo PE T-shirts are available from either school wear supplier	Used Logo PE T-shirts are available from the PTA £2 each	Non-logo royal blue t-shirts can be purchased from many high street stores and supermarkets
Navy Blue PE Shorts	N/A	Occasionally used PE shorts are available from the PTA subject to availability	Non-logo navy blue PE shorts can be purchased from many high street stores and supermarkets
PE Trainers / pumps	N/A	N/A	Any trainers / pumps with a good grip on the sole of the shoe
Wellies / Old Footwear for outdoors	N/A	N/A	Occasionally required for outdoor lessons / play

Andy Blair Schoolwear Tel: 02476 598080 88-90 Barker Butts Lane Coundon, Coventry CV6 1DY

The Schoolwear Company Tel: 02476 598080 55 Winsford Avenue Allesley Park, Coventry CV5 9JG

PTA Used Uniform Orders Allesleyprimarypta@gmail.com

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 headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents are expected to 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 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.

5.4 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