



Hawthorn Primary School

School Uniform Policy



**'Where Every
Child Matters'**

1. Introduction

1.1 It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

1.2 Our school uniform is a red sweatshirt or cardigan and/or fleece, To wear under the sweatshirt we wear pale red or white polo shirts. These should be worn with a grey/black skirt or trousers/leggings/shorts.

1.3 During warmer weather, grey/ black shorts or red gingham dresses may be worn.

1.4 During PE/Sports lessons and activities, our uniform is a house-coloured t-shirt and black shorts, jogging bottoms or leggings. We do not allow unsuitable clothing such jeans (including jean shorts) or crop tops.

1.5 Requiring school logos and other bespoke features on school uniform, obtainable only from specialist suppliers can be costly. Branded items are not compulsory, and the uniform has been designed to be purchased from a range of retailers.

2 Aims and objectives

2.1 Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- supports and promotes the ethos of the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- ensures pupils are dressed appropriately for learning activities;
- identifies the children with the school and supports safeguarding and attendance policies;
- removes peer pressure to dress in particular fashions;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and reduce inequalities;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

3 Jewellery

3.1 On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears and small faced watches. We ask the children either to remove these during PE and games, or to cover them with a plaster.

4 Extreme haircuts

4.1 The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. This includes but it is not limited to, brightly coloured hair, inappropriate hair styles such as mohawks etc. Should you have any questions over the appropriateness of a particular style, please speak to the school before hand.

5 Footwear

5.1 The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We encourage pupils to wear comfortable, flat, safe footwear. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, as well as loose fitting footwear such as Crocs or flip flops. As a result, we do not allow these types of footwear.

5.2 All children should wear flat black shoes to school. No coloured or patterned footwear is permitted. Trainers may be worn during Physical Education and sports lessons/activities.

5.3 It is recognised that some pupils with specific medical or physical conditions may wear specialised footwear.

6 The role of parents

6.1 We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

6.2 If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are exceptional reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

7 Recycling Schemes

7.1 Second hand uniforms are available via sales organised by the PTA, the Friends of Hawthorn Primary. The sustainability and environmental benefits of recycling uniforms are promoted by the school when advertising these sales of second hand items.

8 Complaints

8.1 Complaints or concerns about school uniform, including availability or cost should be raised with the school governing body and dealt with in accordance with the complaints procedure.

8 Financial Assistance

8.1 **School Essentials Grant:** The Welsh Government recognises that some parents face financial hardship from the costs of purchasing school uniforms. The School Essentials Grant was launched in 2018, to provide financial assistance to eligible families on lower incomes for the purchase of school uniform and footwear, amongst other items. The grant scheme is administered by the Local Authority on behalf of the Welsh Government.

8.2 If support is needed in financing uniform the school, please speak to the school office or leadership team, who will support sensitively and discreetly.

9 The role of governors

9.1 The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

9.2 It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

9.3 Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

10 Monitoring and review

10.1 When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the governing body will:

- seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- consider with the headteacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
- require the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

10.2 This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.