Eastover Primary School
School Uniform Policy

Approved by the Governing Body of Eastover Primary School

Signed by:

Name .....Mrs B Cockerell.....

Signature: .....

Date approved:

Proposed Date of Review: 21 May 2027

Statutory: Yes

Website: Yes

Eastover Primary School – School Uniform Policy

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

1. Roles and responsibilities

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 the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Implementing 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.

Staff members are responsible for:

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

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.
- Clearly labelled with the child's name.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.

2. Cost principles

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
- making the wearing of items with the school logo on non-compulsory
- allowing the wearing of cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- 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

3. Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's

records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression in line with the LGBTQ+ Policy.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

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.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

4. Uniform assistance

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. School uniform assistance is provided by supplying school clothing on request. The budget for the school uniform assistance scheme comes from **pupil premium funds**.

To claim school uniform assistance, parents should be eligible for **FSM**. Eligibility is determined by checking original documents from the relevant authority, detailing receipt of the benefit and the address of the pupil.

Families who meet the criteria should complete the School Uniform Assistance Application Form and return it to the school office.

The school will sell quality second hand uniform through pre-loved sales for parents to access. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform which is in reusable condition when they no longer need it. At the end of each term pre-loved uniform will be donated to the Sense Uniform Hub in Bridgwater town centre to provide uniform at a low cost and raise funds for people with complex disabilities.

5. School uniform

Clothing

The school uniform is as follows:

Item	Optional or required	How to acquire
Red sweatshirt or Red cardigan	**Required**	**Branded sweatshirt and cardigan available from school suppliers and second hand from online school uniform platform. Red sweatshirt or cardigan can be bought from regular retailers.**

White polo shirt	**Required**	**Available from school supplier, second hand from school uniform platform and available from regular retailers.**
Grey trousers, shorts or grey skirt,	**Required**	**Available from school supplier, second hand from school uniform platform and available from regular retailers.**
Sensible, plain black shoes	**Required**	**Available from regular retailers.**
Plain red t-shirt	**Required**	**Available from regular retailers.**
Plain black shorts	**Required**	**Available from regular retailers.**
School book bag	**Provided by school on Admission**	**Available from school supplier.**

Pupils who are wearing skirts must also wear **black or grey tights**.

Trainers are not considered suitable footwear. High heels are not permitted; however, block heels of no more than **3** cm can be worn.

Skirts must be knee-length. Black jeans are not permitted.

Parents must acquire a PE kit meeting the following criteria:

- **Plain T-shirt with no branding**
- **Plain shorts or tracksuit bottoms with no branding**
- **Suitable trainers**
- **Suitable sports footwear, e.g. football boots**

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

Jewellery

Permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- **One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.**
- **A smart and sensible wristwatch.**

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and science experiments.

Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair (ie, shoulder length or longer) must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up and especially during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- **Brightly-coloured, dyed hair.**
- **Headwear with bold patterns or colours.**
- **Excessive hair accessories.**

6. Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing should be checked for a name label before being taken to the lost property box in the **relevant year cloakroom**. All lost property is retained for **two week** and is recycled within the school community if it is not collected within this time.

7. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every year by the **chair of governors** and the **headteacher**.

The scheduled review date for this policy is 21 May 2027.

School Uniform Assistance Application Form

Children who attend **Eastover Primary School** are eligible for school uniform assistance if they receive **FSM**.

This scheme is open to children in **Years FS-6**. The allowance is for buying suitable school wear and is paid once a year.

Part 1: Details of parent

Your full name:	
Title:	
National insurance number:	
Address:	
Postcode:	
Mobile no.:	
Landline no.:	
Email address:	

By supplying us with a phone number or email, you agree to being contacted to let you know if you are eligible.

Part 2: Details of each dependent child you are applying for and what uniform items you require

Surname	Forename	Date of birth	Uniform required and size

Please read this declaration before you sign it

- I declare I am the parent of the child(ren) that I am applying for.
- I declare that all the information I have given is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- I am aware that I have a duty to notify the school in writing immediately of any changes in my circumstances which might affect my entitlement to school clothing assistance.
- I understand that information taken from this form will be stored electronically on the school's computers. The school is permitted to do this under the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. A copy of the school's registration is held for inspection.

Please return this completed for to the school office.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____