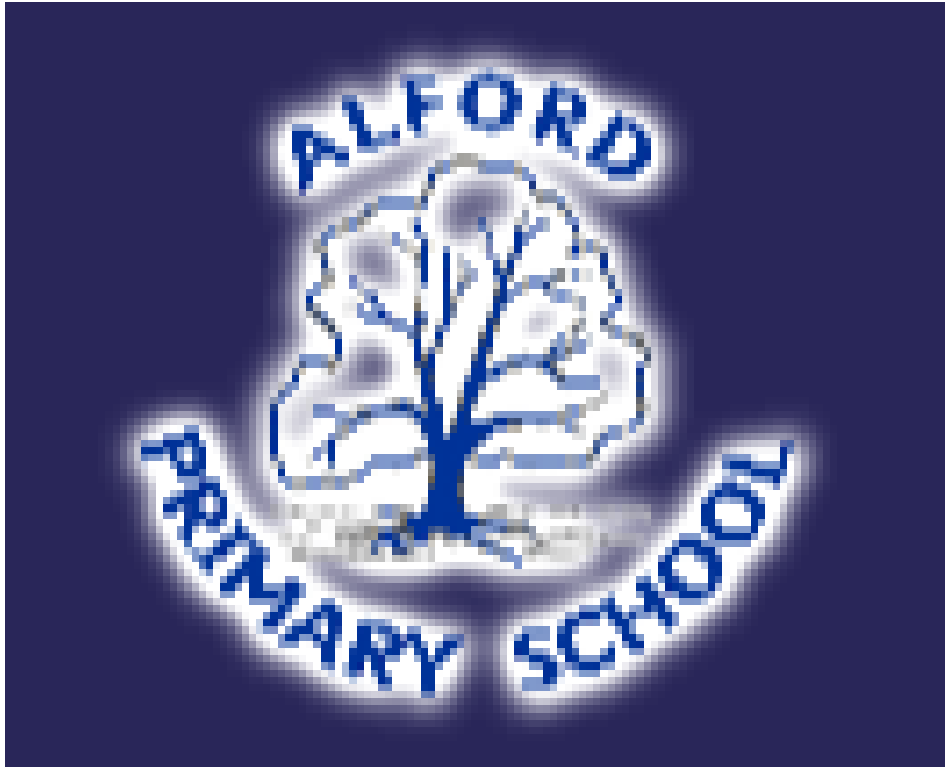


School Uniform Policy

Alford Primary School



Approved by: Full Governing Body Date: 19.07.2022

Last reviewed on: [11/7/23]

Next review due by: [Date]

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 the Headteacher 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 and allowing parents the option to buy non-branded versions in the same colour.
- › Avoiding extra items deemed accessories – hats, ties etc.
- › 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
- › 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
- › Wearing PE tops on PE days to limit the number of tops needed.
- › Ensuring that siblings are in the same colour house to allow for reuse of house tops
- › Provide an extremely low cost 'preloved' service for parents to buy uniform at reduced rates
- › Signpost parents to local uniform swap shop for parents to acquire free 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

School Uniform

The uniform is as follows:

- Maroon sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece (with or without the school logo)
- Pale blue polo shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Grey or black trousers
- Grey or black skirt or pinafore dress (in summer a blue and white summer dress may be worn)
- Plain, black, sensible shoes
- Grey, black or white socks
- Grey or black tights
- Optional book bag (with or without the school logo)

PE Kit

Children are asked to come into school on the day of their PE lesson wearing their PE kit. They can wear it for the full school day. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for PE.

The PE kit is as follows:

- House colour polo top or plain white T-shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- Black shorts (in summer)
- Plain, suitable trainers or black pumps

Plain jogging bottoms, hoodies/sweatshirts are preferred. However, a small, branded logo is acceptable.

All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

The only items of branded uniform that are worn are polo shirts, cardigans, jumpers and fleeces. All branded items are optional with parents being allowed to buy non-branded versions in the same colour. We will accept generic versions of all school items.

PE requirements are for non-branded shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms. The PE tops are branded but optional. All children are permitted to wear a plain, non-branded, white T-shirt for PE.

Choice of swimming costume is up to the pupil as long as it meets Health and safety requirements.

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings
- A sensible wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

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, for example, PE lessons / swimming lessons. If children cannot remove their own earrings, then this should be done at home on the day of PE.

Outer Clothing

Outdoor school clothing is as follows:

- Waterproof coat (or waterproof jacket in warmer weather) •
- Wellington boots
- Appropriate hat for the weather
- Scarf and gloves (in colder weather)

School Bag

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold children's items comfortably without causing any damage.

Large bags / large rucksacks are discouraged for day-to-day lessons due to space on children's pegs.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

Branded Book bags can be purchased from the school but these are optional

Water Bottle

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children whenever necessary during the day. Water bottles must be labelled with the pupil's name.

Branded water bottles are available but these are optional.

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted except for temporary spray on charity/special event days.

Long hair should be tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands

are acceptable.

At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in exceptional circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss / illness etc.

Make-Up

False nails and nail extensions are not permitted.

Nail varnish should not be worn.

Children are not allowed to wear make-up.

At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

Cold Weather

During cold weather, pupils are required to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.

Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted.

Where possible, pupils not wearing warm clothing are provided with spare clothing if going outside during break and lunch times.

Hot Weather

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.

This includes wearing:

- Loose fitting tops with collars or covered necklines
- Tops that cover the shoulder area
- Grey or black shorts or pale blue and white, or red and white, summer dresses of an appropriate length (if families wish to)
- Sun-safe hats
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunscreen (children must be able to apply this themselves and it must be labelled and handed to the child's class teacher)

During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are not required to wear their jumpers/cardigans during heatwaves. If outside during break and lunch times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing/sunscreen are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

Labelling

Parents should ensure all uniform is labelled clearly with the child's name.

School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated spaces for children to keep belongings in and checking of labels. However, all pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name.

Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. The school is not responsible for replacing lost uniform.

If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher.

Any lost clothing is taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our branded items of uniform are available to purchase via our school shop.

This is available at <https://shop.alfordprimary.co.uk/>

Currently, we source our uniform from the following suppliers:

Nationwide Uniform

We ensure that we review our suppliers on an annual basis to ensure that we are providing parents with best value for money.

Parents and carers can obtain all uniform more widely, e.g. from high street and online retailers.

Our school shop also provides a 'preloved' second hand service

The Alford Hub Uniform and Baby Bank - 19 High Street Alford – also provides our school uniform. This is open every Wednesday and Friday between 9am - 12 noon and provides free baby clothes and equipment and free school uniform for the schools in the area.

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 and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also 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.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the senior leadership team.

On rare occasions, for example, if slogans on clothing are offensive, the Head Teacher and/or Deputy Head Teacher are permitted to ask a pupil to take off the clothing, such as a sweatshirt / jumper.

In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.

On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person.

If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, for example, swimming or PE, parents/carers may be asked to bring the item into school.

Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform. However, in accordance with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, these should be recorded using our electronic recording system (CPOMs) where appropriate.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

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

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by finance committee and seen by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Behaviour policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Complaints policy

