

Policy:	Uniform & Appearance Policy May 2025	
Status:	Non- Statutory	
Review Date:	2 years – May 2027	

Introduction

It is our policy that all children are expected to maintain a high standard of appearance and to wear our school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform within this policy. The policy specifies exactly what choices there are and what we recommend that pupils should wear.

We respectfully request that before purchasing any item that is not specifically listed that you check with school to ensure suitability. It is our aim to keep our uniform consistent. We ask that all parents/guardians support our effort to make all aspects of our school outstanding and we believe, as far as possible, a strict adherence to our uniform policy helps.

Aims and Objectives

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school:
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging:
- supports positive behaviour and discipline:
- is practical and smart:
- identifies the children with the school, and encourages identity with the school:
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance:
- prevents children coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition:
- is regarded as suitable and good value for money, by most parents/guardians.

The role of Parents/guardians

We ask all parents/guardians who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents/guardians have a duty to send their children to school dressed correctly and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents/guardians is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair. If there are serious reasons, for example, on religious grounds, why parents/guardians 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 SEND, then parents/guardians are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher who will endeavour to make reasonable adjustments.

The role of Teachers and Support Staff

All staff will ensure that pupils comply with the uniform policy. Where children are in breach of the policy, the classteacher will initially speak to the child and parents/guardians to remedy the situation, discussing the matter sensitively with the child and parents/guardians. Staff will refer continued breaches of the policy to the Headteacher.

In addition, all staff will set a good example in terms of personal dress. This should be determined by smart professional dress and can be varied according to the activities being taught. For example, PE should be taught in appropriate clothing and footwear.

The role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It will consider all representations from parents/guardians regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. Governors ensure that the school uniform meets regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

The role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure that pupils and staff comply with the uniform policy agreed by the Governing Body. The Headteacher has a duty to enforce the school uniform throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day to day discipline in the school.

The Headteacher may discipline a pupil for breach of the Uniform/Appearance Policy. Where children are in breach of the policy and have been referred by the child's classteacher, the Headteacher will initially speak to the child and parents/guardians to remedy the situation. Following on from this, any further breach, a formal letter will follow.

GENERAL APPEARANCE

Hair

At St.Botolph's school, in the interests of safety, practicality and hygiene, we would prefer long hair (i.e. hair at shoulder length or longer) to be tied back at all times and it **MUST** be tied back where it is a stated control measure under Health & Safety risk assessments (eg. all PE lessons; use of outdoor play equipment; Forest school; food technology; science experiments etc –see *detailed school risk assessments for specific clarification*). Adults working in school will be aware of situations when this is required and will inform children of times when hair must be tied back. Children who do not come with their hair tied back can borrow a hair band/bobble from school.

When tying hair back, please use a small plain black, white, or green hair band/bobble. All headwear needs to be appropriate to school, i.e. hair bands / alic bands and hair slides are only to be worn where hair needs to be held back and not as a fashion accessory. These items should be in line with school colours.

We are very aware of the fact that children are continually subjected to fashion influences with regard to hair styles and hair wear – some of which are appropriate to the school situation whilst others are not. Any styles which cause a potential health and safety issue will not be allowed nor will any style/accessory which is not formal school wear.

Jewellery

We have witnessed examples of the injuries jewellery can cause, both to the wearer and to others, so for the safety of all concerned, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exception to this rule is the wearing of a watch (which must be removed for PE). Earrings, even small studs are **NOT** allowed and plasters over the ear are not acceptable. **PLEASE NOTE THAT IF CHILDREN HAVE EARS PIERCED THEY MUST DO SO AT THE BEGINNING OF THE SUMMER HOLIDAY AND REMOVE THEM FOR THE START OF TERM, OTHERWISE IT WILL AFFECT THEIR PARTICIPATION IN THE STATUTORY P.E CURRICULUM.**

For Religious reasons only a symbol in the form of a bracelet may be worn as long as it is hidden underneath clothing. For P.E. Lessons the symbol must be taken off or pushed further up the child's arm in order to be completely hidden by clothing for health and safety reasons. For Swimming these items **MUST** be completely covered by a tight wrist band.

Make-up/nail varnish

No make-up is permitted at all, unless necessary for a concert or play. Nail varnish should not be worn.

WE ALSO RESERVE THE RIGHT TO ASK CHILDREN TO REMOVE ANY OTHER ACCESSORY WHICH IN OUR OPINION CONSTITUTES A DANGER TO THE WEARER OR OTHER CHILDREN.

Footwear

Children should wear black sensible shoes to school (not trainers). We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear platform soles, open toed sandals, or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Black boots are acceptable in the winter months, where they are both practical and necessary. Our school promotes the use of practical shoes that are well maintained and reflect our commitment to safety, smart appearance and pride in school identity.

The 'official' St Botolph's CE Primary School uniform can be purchased from our PTA (FOSB - Friends Of St Botolph's). In addition, it is available through a local supplier Rosebuddies who have a stall on Loughborough Market.

In order to be consistent with colours, purchases from here would be the preferred option. However, **uniform can be purchased from other suppliers, as long as they reflect the appropriate school colours as identified within this policy.** Our colours are bottle green, grey and white and the uniform is as follows:

- bottle green sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece
- bottle green or white polo shirt or white shirt
- dark grey skirt, trousers, shorts or pinafore dress
- green and white gingham dresses
- grey/white socks, grey/green tights
- black sensible school shoes/boots (not trainers)

In addition, FOSB run a monthly 'nearly new' stall, where uniform is free but donations would be appreciated.

For PE all children need:

Indoor PE:

- a school* house t-shirt (red; green; blue; yellow - depending on house allocation) – no logo
- black PE shorts
- black plimsolls
- drawstring bag (clearly labelled with child's name)

Outdoor PE: (KS1 & 2 children only)

- a school* house hoody (red; green; blue; yellow - depending on house allocation) – no logo
- black tracksuit/jogging bottoms/leggings
- trainers

**Please purchase 'House' items from the school supplier to ensure correct colour match.*

Swimming (KS2)

- Above the knee swimming trunks/shorts (boys)
- One piece swimming costume (girls)
- Towel
- Hairbrush or comb
- Goggles (a permission slip must be signed by parents/guardians if goggles are to be worn)
- Plain swimming hats, as appropriate

Parents/guardians should note that Swimming and P.E. is a compulsory part of the curriculum and all children are required to participate. Children who do not bring a P.E./Swimming kit will borrow one from school.

Additional optional items (available in school colour with logo)

- Book bag
- Rucksack
- Coat
- Fleece

Extreme Weather

Children should dress appropriately for extreme weather conditions. In the summer it is vital that children have a protective sun hat or cap. Sun cream should be applied to children before they arrive at school on hot summer days. Boots and sufficiently warm waterproof coats should be provided in wet or snowy weather. In very severe weather it is perfectly acceptable/sensible for both boys and girls to wear suitable outdoor clothing/footwear to and from School and to put on for outside playtime. Children will, however, be expected to remove or change such items inside School.

As outdoor play is a vital part of the Early Years curriculum, the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage should be dressed appropriately for all kinds of weather. Although we have outdoor shelter, it is important to provide an appropriate raincoat for wet and cold days. Hats, gloves and Wellington boots would also be items of clothing that we recommend could be provided for the children.

Lost Property

In order to return lost property, **all uniform**, including shoes, PE kits and personal items should be clearly marked with the child's name.