

# School uniform policy

Reed First School



Learning Together, Learning for Life

**Approved by: FGB**

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### 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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking parents to get in touch with the Headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

### 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.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different years
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities, for example: making use of PE kit for Forest School.
- 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

##### Colder months

- Reed First School logo maroon cardigan, jumper or hoodie
- Grey trousers or shorts skirt, skort or pinafore
- White polo shirt, shirt or blouse
- Grey socks, grey tights or knee high socks
- Low black shoes

##### Warmer months

- Reed First School logo maroon cardigan, jumper or hoodie
- Grey shorts, skort or pink checked dress
- White polo shirt or shirt
- Grey or white socks
- Low black shoes or sandals

All children will also need Wellingtons. These are ideally kept in school to enable the children to get out and about whatever the weather.

Please also provide a clear plastic bottle with a sports top for water. This bottle will be sent home daily to be cleaned and refilled. The children have access to additional water to refill during the day.

### **Jewellery**

Our children may wear small studs if their ears are pierced. Please ensure all studs must either be removed or covered with surgical tape for PE lessons. Children may wear a simple analogue watch when they are learning to or can tell the time. There are clocks in every classroom however and an additional digital 24-hour clock in our KS2 class. No other jewellery should be worn. If you have any religious or cultural reasons for wearing any additional jewellery, please discuss this with the Headteacher at transition.

### **Hair**

We of course allow all children to wear their hair at a length which they are comfortable with. We do ask however, that any hair which falls below the shoulder is tied neatly with maroon, black or brown simple hair ties and clips. Fringes which can fall into the eyes should also be secured with clips or hair bands.

Hair colour should be natural and any products such as gels used to ensure a well presented look only!

Head coverings for religious reasons will be respected.

### **PE**

- Reed School logo maroon PE T-shirt
- Reed School logo maroon hoodie
- Black shorts or cycling shorts (logo free)
- Black jogging bottoms or leggings (logo free)
- Trainers (please ensure children can tie their own laces before providing lace up trainers)
- PE uniform should be kept in a Reed School logo drawstring bag or ruck-sack.

**Swimming (Year 1 onwards)** - Close fitting one-piece swimwear and towel. Children who have hair long enough to go in their eyes when wet, need to wear a swimming hat. Goggles can be worn, although the water safety part of our curriculum ensures children can be in the water without.

**Please ensure that ALL articles of clothing are named.**

Many children wear the Reed First School logo waterproof fleece coat for Forest School and daily as their coat. However, this is not compulsory.

### **Forest School**

- Reed First School coat or alternative suitable waterproof coat
- Wellington boots, walking boots or snow boots
- Waterproof trousers
- PE kit
- Warm hat (preferably covering ears)
- Warm gloves (preferably more than one pair if they get wet)
- Extra pair of leggings/thermals under trousers in cold weather

## **4.2 Where to purchase it**

All items with the Reed School logo including,

May be purchased from:

Kids Connection  
Unit 1A, Great Northern Works  
Hartham Lane  
Hertford, SG14 1QW  
01992 587466

[store@kidsconnection.co.uk](mailto:store@kidsconnection.co.uk)

[www.kidsconnection.co.uk](http://www.kidsconnection.co.uk)

**We have stock of second hand clothing at school available, please ask the school office if you would like a particular item. We also encourage parents to please donate any outgrown school uniform back to the school to enable us to offer a wide range of second hand items to support sustainability and the cost of living.**

## 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.
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required).

### 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 [head@reed.herts.sch.uk](mailto:head@reed.herts.sch.uk) 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.

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 body 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 body will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy