Paulton Junior School

Uniform Policy

Reviewed: May 2026

Next review: May 2028

1. Introduction

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 all 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, sexual orientation, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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
- 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 pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Head teacher, 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 code we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this at Paulton Junior School by:

- Following the statutory limits (mandatory from September 2026) for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of: **2 items.**
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items, by only asking that **a school logo sweatshirt or cardigan and the school logo PE House T-Shirt are worn.**
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes

- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Making sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

SCHOOL UNIFORM

- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan - with school logo
- Grey trousers, knee-length tailored shorts, knee-length skirt or pinafore
- White shirt/ blouse/ polo shirt
- Black, navy, grey or white socks
- Grey or navy tights
- Black shoes (no trainers no boots)

In the summer a blue and white checked/stripy dress can be worn.

PE Kit

- House coloured PE T-shirt-with school logo
  (Ash-blue, Beech-green, Elm-red and Oak- yellow)
- Shorts - black or navy shorts (at least mid-length)
- Tracksuit bottoms or leggings. Plain Black or Navy (unbranded)
- Trainers - sturdy enough for PE lessons
- School sweatshirt or cardigan-with school logo

Outdoor learning

- Wellies
- Waterproof coat and trousers

To ensure our school remains a comfortable and safe place for everyone to learn and play, we ask that all clothing is **fit for purpose** and reflects a **standard of modesty** appropriate for a primary school environment.

To prevent peer pressure and ensure no child feels "different" or left out, visible designer logos and expensive brands are **not allowed.**

Hair and Jewellery

As a primary school, we encourage children to come to school in a way that reflects their age.

- Please keep hair to natural tones, avoiding bright dyes and shaved patterns. We fully support and respect styles worn for cultural or religious reasons.
- Children with long hair (below shoulder length) should have it tied back.
- Hair accessories should be simple and understated
- **No** make-up, fake nails, or nail polish.
- **No** jewellery such as necklaces, rings, or bracelets. As children are active throughout the day, jewellery can easily get caught or damaged causing injury.
- For children with pierced ears, we allow one stud earring in each ear only. All earrings must be removed or covered before participating in PE.

If a child comes to school with any of these things they will be asked to remove them, or parents may be contacted to do so.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire our uniform

Our school jumper/cardigan and House PE T-shirt are the only mandatory logo items required at our school. Please refer to the Uniform page on our school website.

To ensure school wear remains affordable, every other part of the uniform can be purchased from any supermarket.

Second hand uniform is made available throughout the school year.

Please speak to a member of staff in the school office if you wish to discreetly enquire information regarding second-hand uniform.

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)

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/carers 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/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/carers 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 Headteacher.

Where non-compliance with the uniform policy is suspected to be a result of financial hardship, staff will adopt a sensitive and considerate approach. No pupil shall be removed from classroom teaching as a sanction for such instances. Any concerns regarding financial difficulty should be referred to the Headteacher, who will assess each case individually to determine appropriate support. This is in line with the Department of Education statutory guidance on cost of school uniforms.

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/carers, and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

Our uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every **2 years**.