



# Uniform Policy



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## Introduction and Policy Aims/Purpose

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 in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform and further linked guidance on [expectations](#).

## 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, disability, 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 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 gender
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Cheryl Smith, [school@bearwood.poole.sch.uk](mailto:school@bearwood.poole.sch.uk), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

## Limiting the cost of school uniform

Parents should not have to think about the cost of a school uniform when choosing which school(s) to apply for. Therefore, schools need to ensure that their uniform is affordable.

In considering cost, schools will need to think about the total cost of school uniforms, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school.

Schools should keep the use of branded items to a minimum.

A school's uniform policy should be published on the school's website, be available for all parents, including parents of prospective pupils, and be easily understood.

Schools should ensure that their uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money (including the quality and durability of the garment).

Single supplier contracts should be avoided unless regular tendering competitions are run where more than one supplier can compete for the contract and where the best value for money is secured.



This contract should be retendered at least every 5 years.

Schools should ensure that second-hand uniforms are available for parents to acquire. Information on second-hand uniforms should be clear for parents of current and prospective pupils and published on the school's website.

Schools should engage with parents and pupils when they are developing their school uniform policy. At Bearwood Primary and Nursery school, uniform is worn throughout the school as we believe it encourages a sense of belonging and identity.

### Uniform at our School

Our aim is that uniform is inclusive and low cost. It consists of the following items:

#### ***In Reception – Year 6***

- School branded sweatshirt or cardigan (not plain)
- Grey or Black tailored school trousers or shorts (leisure / fashion trousers e.g. joggers or leggings are not acceptable).
- Grey or Black pinafore or skirt, in Summer – purple gingham dress (if preferred)
- White school shirt or blouse with a school tie
- White open necked school blouse
- Black, grey or purple socks
- Black/grey tights
- Black shoes – sturdy to offer protection while children are at play. During the winter, boots are acceptable but must be black, plain and of a sensible style.

See Appendix I which outlines our uniform requirements in pictures.

#### ***In Nursery***

- purple jumper or cardigan with Bearwood School logo
- purple Bearwood t-shirt, or plain purple T-shirt
- white polo shirt
- black leggings/joggers/shorts
- black shoes/trainers

All branded school uniform can be purchased using at:

PMG School Wear  
85 High Street  
Poole  
BH15 1AG

Alternatively on line at <https://www.brigade.uk.com/> or <https://www.pmgschoolwear.co.uk/>

During the winter months all children should wear a coat.



## PE Uniform

At Bearwood we operate 'PE uniform' days, whereby children are expected to wear their PE uniform to school on the days that they have a PE lesson. All children are required to have a PE uniform which consists of:

- Black or white shorts
- School Branded purple t-shirt or plain purple t-shirt
- Trainers (football / rugby boots may be worn when appropriate)
- Tracksuit or sweatshirt for colder weather

## Pre-loved uniform

We ask all parents to donate any uniform that is still in good condition but is no longer used. Sales of second hand uniform are held through a second hand online shop **PFA Uniform Shop** [Click here to visit the shop](#) and each Friday at the end of the school day.

## General Appearance

Pupils should wear clean uniform.

Hair should be neat and tidy with no shapes cut in. For health and safety, we ask for long hair to be tied back. Accessories, such as bands, bows, slides etc. should be small and simple, and in style colour – ideally school purple however, black, white or grey is acceptable.

Shoes should be all black including the soles and in good condition so that pupils are safe and comfortable.

Children should not wear:

- jewellery, the only exception is small, plain stud earrings which children will need to be able to remove for P.E.
- Nail varnish
- Hair braids
- Make up
- Tights for PE
- Sports branded shoes, canvas style shoes for main school uniform (trainers are only allowed as part of PE uniform).
- Open toe sandals

## Religions and Beliefs

Some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. Pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief, but not necessarily at all times, places or in a particular manner. If our school has good reason for restricting an individual's freedoms, for example, the promotion of cohesion and good order in the school, or genuine health and safety or security considerations, the restriction of an individual's rights to manifest their religion or belief may be justified.

The school will be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and act reasonably in accommodating these needs, without compromising important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. It should be possible for most religious requirements to be met within a school uniform policy and the local governing board will act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating these.



### Engagement with parents/carers

The school will engage with parents and pupils when developing their uniform policy to ensure that it is suitable for their school community, recognising that the school community may change over time. 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 dealt with in accordance with the school's complaints policy. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome

### Discrimination

Even when a policy has been agreed, school staff will be able to allow for some individual variations to their uniform policy, where necessary to avoid indirect discrimination. For instance, reasonable adjustments will be made, as appropriate, for pupils with a disability. We aim to make our school uniform as inclusive as possible so if parents have any requests or concerns then please contact the school.

### Other things to think about

Please ensure all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name to avoid them being lost. Lost property is located in each of the cloakrooms.

During hot weather children should bring a bottle of water and a sun hat into school, every day. Please remember to apply sunscreen in the morning before school.

### 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 our Headteacher.

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.

### Governors

The governing body will review this policy to ensure it is appropriate for the school context, is implemented fairly across the school and is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.

### Associated Policies

This policy links to:

Complaints policy

Behaviour policy

Equality information and objectives





## Appendix I – Uniform Requirements

# School Uniform

We are very proud of our children and want them to take pride in themselves too. A smart school uniform is a really important way to do this, so we expect children to wear clothing only from the options listed here.

This applies to all children in Reception – Year 6.



**JUMPERS & CARDIGANS**

A branded jumper, not plain. These are available from our uniform suppliers.



**DRESSES & SKIRTS**

Black or grey pinafore/skirt with a white blouse.  
Summer - purple gingham dress

The following should NOT be worn in school:

- Jewellery except small studs and watches
- Nail varnish
- Hair Braids
- Make up
- Tights for PE



**HAIR**



Neat and tidy please - no shapes cut in. For health & safety, we ask for long hair to be tied back.  
Accessories, such as bands, bows, slides etc, should be small and simple, and in style colour - ideally school purple.



**TROUSERS & SHORTS**

Grey or black tailored school trousers. (Leisure/fashion trousers, e.g. Joggers, leggings etc are not acceptable)



**SHOES**



Black - sturdy to offer protection while children are at play. Boots are fine during the winter months but must be black, plain and of a sensible style.

Sports branded or canvas shoes are not part of our uniform. No open toe sandals. Trainers are for sports lessons only.



**SHIRTS & TIE**

White shirt with school tie, school blouse with tie, or open necked school blouse.



**SOCKS**

Grey, black, white or purple



**TIGHTS**

Black or Grey

**PE KIT**



PE Bag also available from our suppliers.

For gymnastics and dance:  
Plain white or black shorts, purple branded Bearwood T-Shirt (Available from our suppliers) or plain purple T-Shirt. No footwear is required - verruca's must be covered

For Games - Outdoors:  
Children may wear a sweatshirt and/or tracksuit bottoms over their usual kit in cold weather. Trainers Football/rugby boots may be worn when appropriate

## Why bother with a school uniform?

We love our Bearwood Primary & Nursery School Uniform. It is important to wear clean, tidy clothes for many reasons:

To create a feeling of pride	To be safe and practical for learning	To provide a sense of belonging and teamwork
To reduced distraction away from learning	To create a sense of order and purpose within school	
To reduce peer pressure relating to clothes children might otherwise wear		