



School Uniform Policy

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1. Aims & Principles

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

Principles

At Corpus Christi, we believe that the uniform achieves three main goals:

1. To serve as a prominent symbol of the school's dedication to excellence, nurturing both educational high standards and the children's self-esteem.
2. It encourages self-respect among pupils and acts as an equaliser
3. It forms an important part of our shared identity and helps create an environment where everyone feels valued and equal.

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:

- Minimise the number of gender-specific items.
- 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 but is safe by tying any long hair back.
- 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 Headteachers, 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

We have taken the views of our school community into account when thinking about how we can ensure the accessibility of our 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 (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 by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:
 - 4 or fewer, if 1 item is a tie
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible for example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over a jumper/cardigan, features the school logo
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups, **for example Nursery tracksuit can continue being used as PE Kit until it is outgrown.**
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama. Football kits will be provided by the school for matches.
- Girls can continue to wear their skirt and blouse in the summer, but parents have the option of purchasing a lighter, more breathable summer dress for comfort and ease of cleaning or pair the existing skirt with an open neck school blouse.
- Coloured bibs or kits would be provided by the school for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions
- 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
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make 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

➤ The branded Items required are as follows;

- School Blazer
- School Hat (Cap for boys and Felt hat for girls with the option of a summer hat if this is the parents preference)
- School Jumper/Tank Top, not branded but does have the coloured stripe in the collar.
- School Tie

➤ Compulsory and optional branded Items available from school but unbranded versions from the high street permitted:

Compulsory Items non branded	Available From the High Street	Available from School
Winter Coat – Plain Navy, no logos or branding	✓	✓
Light Blue school shirt – plain with collar, long or short sleeve	✓	✗
Girls - Navy Skirt or Pinafore dress in winter Navy cotton tights Skirts must sit at the knee or longer	✓	✗
Boys - Grey trousers or Grey (knee length) shorts for the summer for boys. No thigh pockets, only slit pockets permitted Grey Socks	✓	✗
Navy Book Bag- From Reception to Y2 The school will gift a book bag to every child in Reception as a welcome gift, subsequent bags can be bought from the school.	✓	➤ Current branded ones can continue to be sold/used until stock runs out
Navy Blue Rucksack – No logo from Y3 onwards	✓	
Girls – Summer option 1, existing skirt/pinafore with Light Blue open neck blouse	✓	Girls light blue and white stripe blouse (Until stock runs out)
Girls – Summer option 2 to wear a light blue gingham summer dress for comfort. Must be worn with the school blazer Dresses must sit at the knee or longer	✓ Our preferred option is light blue gingham, available from M&S.	✓ Summer dress, Currently Blue Stripe until stock runs out, then will move to Light Blue Gingham
Nursery & PE		
Plain Navy-blue tracksuit top - Cotton	✓	✓
Plain Navy blue tracksuit top with cuffed leg	✓	✓
Plain Navy Cotton Polo	✓	✓
Navy Cotton Shorts	✓	✓ Limited sizes
Tracksuits will be worn all week for Nursery children and all day once a week for the child's PE day from reception to Y6.		

Expectations for generic items, such as:

- The colour of items, is as stated above, we maintain a very simple palate of Navy, Light Blue, Grey. These colours are easily accessible in most high street retailers. All uniform items should be plain and not display any logos except for the school logo. This is important to ensure that children do not feel discriminated against or feel different to their peers.
 - Where possible we encourage the use of natural fibres for clothes nearer the skin, such as T-shirts, socks, shirts and for PE kit. We understand and accept that the durability of synthetic fibres are important on outerwear and jumpers.
 - It is important when purchasing uniform that the functionality and comfort of the child be considered;
 - Skirts or dresses should sit on or below the knee, navy cycling shorts can be worn underneath for modesty and comfort if this is preferred.
 - Boys grey straight leg trousers, should be formal in style. Shorts, if worn in summer, should be knee length and formal straight cut, not cargo style.
 - All uniform should also give a little room for growth, feel comfortable for the children to sit and learn and give enough room to play in.
- Our PE Kit is very simple; consisting of a Navy-blue Polo Shirt and Navy shorts and plain Navy cotton Tracksuit with cuffed legs. When transitioning from Nursery to Reception, the Nursery uniform tracksuit can be retained as the Reception PE Kit until the child has outgrown it
- Swimming costumes should be one piece and can be used outside of school
- The only jewellery permitted are simple gold or silver stud earrings and watches. Jewellery for medical purposes should be supported by a letter from parents.
- Children's hair should be neat and tidy and off their face. For those with longer hair it should be tied back away from the face
- All coats should be weather appropriate and plain navy. Bags should be plain navy backpacks for juniors (from year 3 onwards) for EYFS and KS1 a plain navy book bag. No logos.
- School shoes should be plain black and age appropriate, with velcro fastening for Nursery, Reception and Year 1 and with laces/buckles or Velcro thereafter. Shoes should be school shoes, boots, trainers or other footwear are not permitted.



- Trainers for all year groups should be white with minimal logos. For Nursery children a plain white non branded trainer with Velcro fastenings is required.
- Where team colours are required, either in school or at inter-school tournaments/games. The school will provide coloured bibs or loaned kit which must be returned immediately after the game for laundering.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

The school has listened to the school community, many of whom cited the convenience and competitive prices as preferring to continue to buy from the school. All the branded items and some of the unbranded or optional items will continue to be available from the school uniform shop.

The required unbranded items, and optional items can be bought from high street retailers, many but not all are also available from the school uniform shop.

- Most generic items can be bought from **TU, George, M&S and John Lewis**, who all carry the same colour palate and have consistent supply chains meaning that the uniform across the school will look smart and consistent across age groups.
- Retailers differed most on Summer dresses, we have decided to name **Marks & Spencer** as our summer dress retailer, based on availability, quality and value for money. This will maintain consistency of look across the school. The school will continue to sell the striped dresses until out of stock and parents are welcome to continue to use these during a transition period.
- Pre-loved uniform sales will be held in March before the change to summer uniform, July in advance of September start of term and change to Winter uniform. This will also be open to existing and prospective parents. Prospective parents will be notified of this in their welcome letter.
- We will also hold a uniform swap in the spring term, where parents can bring in up to 5 items in good condition, washed and pressed and can swap out for the same number of items.
- Pre-loved uniform sales will be advertised via the newsletter, website, posters and emails to prospective parents.

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 Mrs Connery at jconnery@corpus-christi.org.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/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 following the **Behaviour Policy for breaches of discipline**.

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

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

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

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by S Ruiz – The School Business Manager. At every review, it will be approved by the Resources Committee

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Behaviour & Antibullying Policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Wellbeing, Social, Emotional and Mental Health Policy
- › Complaints policy