

Uniform Policy

Ermine Street Church Academy

First approved by Governors	May 11th 2022
Policy to be reviewed every 2 years	
Reviewed by Governors	May 2024

Introduction

Our uniform policy reflects our values and reinforces our school's culture of high expectations and academic achievement. All pupils must dress according to the uniform policy. Our School uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security. When queries arise with an individual pupil's uniform, the school will in the first instance attempt to start a conversation with the family of that pupil in an attempt to understand the situation.

Rationale:

Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times. We have a required school uniform for several reasons:

- Uniforms unite the school. Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their Ermine Street Church Academy uniform they will abide by the rules of the community.
- Uniforms make us all equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to school looking the same way. No one has to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.

- Uniforms look professional. Pupils look neat and ready to learn. We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

Non-compliance with the Uniform Policy

We will follow a routine when pupils are not adhering to the school uniform policy:

- The pupil will be discretely asked why this is the case.
- Parents and carers of pupils that do not wear their uniform correctly will be contacted and asked to bring a uniform.
- If this is not possible that day, then the expectation is that the pupil will be properly dressed on the next school day.

There may be good reasons why a child is not wearing school uniform. In this case, parents and carers should share the reasons with the Headteacher either in person or by letter. The school will always be considerate and discrete in trying to establish why a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform. Pupils will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. In line with our culture of honest conversation with parents and carers, we encourage discussion with the school at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties. There will be occasions when the school decides that school uniform is not appropriate e.g. when taking part in a physical activity day, or wearing different clothes as a part of a fundraising event. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of the revised dress code on these days.

Racial Equality & Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the uniform respects other policies such as Equality, Race relations, sex discrimination and allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals. Ermine Street Church Academy is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

The following are acceptable items of school uniform for girls and boys:

- Maroon sweatshirt or cardigan (available with Ermine Street Church Academy logo).
- White polo shirt (available with Ermine Street Church Academy logo).
- Grey trousers / shorts.
- Grey skirt or pinafore dress (of a respectable length).
- Maroon check summer dresses.
- Grey socks or tights.
- Black shoes.

PE Kit

Indoor

Maroon t-shirt (available with Ermine Street Church Academy logo)

- Plain black shorts (of a respectable length) or plain black cycling shorts
- Black or white trainers (plain colours only)

Outdoor (In addition to the Indoor kit)

- black/grey jogging bottoms
- Plain, dark, single coloured sweatshirt (black/grey).

Please note, hoodies are not acceptable for school uniform or PE uniform.

Availability

All the items above are readily available from the high street – if parents and carers find any item difficult to obtain, please contact the school office. Our uniform has been kept simple to avoid unnecessary expense. The school uniform jumper, pe t-shirt, fleece and cardigan are available from <http://www.totalclothing.co.uk> with the Ermine Street Church Academy logo embroidered onto them.

Outdoor clothing

Children should bring a coat to school each day, although this may not be necessary during hotter weather. Smart, showerproof, jacket-style coats are acceptable.

Bags and belongings

A bookbag is recommended for carrying books, homework, letters and other materials to and from school. Rucksacks and bags are also acceptable, providing they can be hung on a school peg.

Footwear

Pupils must wear closed-toed, hard-soled, **all black plain shoes** with a flat sole. Footwear with flashing lights is not appropriate for school. Pupils may wear all black closed-toed sandals as part of the uniform during warmer weather. Open-toed sandals should not be worn, even in the warmer weather.

Examples of acceptable and not acceptable footwear

Acceptable	Not acceptable
	
	
	
	
	
	
	
	

Hats, Headscarves or Headwear

Pupils are not allowed to wear hats, headscarves, or any other head covering inside the school building unless it is due to religious or cultural reasons. Any head covering for religious or cultural values or hair accessories that are worn such as slides, ribbons, bobbles etc. should be simple and in school uniform colours (maroon, black, grey or white).

Hairstyles

Pupils' hair should be neatly groomed and smart. Where possible, long hair should be tied back neatly in school uniform colours (maroon, black, grey or white). Pupils may not wear designs or words cut into their hair or permanent or temporarily coloured hair.

Fingernail Polish or Make-Up

Pupils are not allowed to wear fingernail polish or false nails. Make-up is not allowed.

Jewellery/Accessories

Pupils may not wear any jewellery except for one watch only (no sound effects or games). Pupils are allowed to wear one pair of stud earrings, and they must be worn in the lower ear lobe. **All studs must be removed for PE.** Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.

Body Piercing and Tattoos

Body piercing is not allowed, with the exception of single, standard ear piercing. No other forms of body piercing will be allowed for any pupil. Pupils are not allowed to have tattoos of any kind on their body. If there is a religious or cultural reason for parents feeling a non-permanent tattoo is appropriate, they should in the first instance contact the school.

Naming Clothing and Property

VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of pupils' property and valuables.

Lost Property

All mislaid items are placed in the school office. Please ask the school office if you wish to look through the lost property to locate items. We endeavour to return all named property. All unclaimed lost property is disposed of at the end of term.