



London Borough
of Hounslow

Fairholme Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs G. Harris

Friday 8th March 2024

Dear Parent and Carers,

Exciting relaunch of Fairholme School Uniform

Following feedback from a significant number of families, staff and Governors regarding our current school uniform, we are excited to announce **changes that we are making to our uniform policy from September 2024 to make this simpler, more affordable and easier to source**. The most significant change will be to the colour of our sweatshirt, from black to red. This represents one of our school colours and has proved popular with children too!

Daily Uniform	PE Uniform
Plain red round-neck sweatshirt or red cardigan (with or without the school logo)	Plain red round neck sweatshirt or red cardigan (with or without the school logo)
Plain white polo shirt with collar	Plain red round-neck t-shirt
Grey school trousers or grey school shorts	Plain black jogging bottoms, plain black leggings or plain black loose shorts
Grey school skirt or a grey pinafore dress	Trainers or black plimsolls
Red and white checked school summer dress (including culottes style)	
Sensible, black, flat school shoes; in summer smart black or white sandals may also be worn	
Black or white hijabs, patkas or turbans	
Simple hair bows and accessories should be black, red or white	
<u>Nursery children</u> are required to wear a plain red round-neck sweatshirt or red cardigan (with or without the school logo)	

We believe coming to school in our Fairholme uniform should enable all children to feel proud, comfortable, part of our school and ready to learn. We have given high priority to cost considerations as well as appearance in developing this policy. In line with our school ethos and with Department for Education (DfE) guidance, the update to our school uniform policy will:

- Be bright, bold, uplifting and child-friendly;
- Be simplified and straightforward – fewer options will result in more consistency and less confusion;
- Be practical, smart and appropriate to the activities involved in learning at our school;
- Focus on clothing that is comfortable, including items available in a variety of different fits;

- Ensure uniform items are affordable and easily purchased, including cheaper options that are readily available in supermarkets as well as a small number of branded items from a uniform supplier;
- Be appropriate and safe for children who walk or cycle to school, and in particular will make children more visible on their way home when it is dark.

This new uniform policy will come into effect from 1st September 2024. We are therefore writing to all our families now, well in advance, as we know parents/carers sometimes like to get ahead and get organised for September. We **do not** expect you to buy new uniform immediately. Instead, when you need to buy new uniform, you should buy items that comply with the updated policy. If your child wishes to start wearing the new school uniform during the summer term, they are very welcome to.

Further information will follow at the beginning of the summer term which will cover answers to some of the following questions and aspects of uniform that families may have:

- We are currently in the process of making changes to our school uniform supplier and hope that the cost of a branded school sweatshirt will be in the region of £10.00-£11.00 (rather than the current cost of £13.99).
- We also expect to have branded school bookbags available for purchase.
- We hope to be able to sell these items directly from our school office, and non-branded versions of these items are readily available in high street shops and supermarkets.
- We anticipate that there is likely to be a transition period of one term during which children who still have the old black sweatshirts and cardigans may, if they wish, continue to wear these in order to get the best wear out of them before changing to the new red ones – this is likely to be September-December 2024, and **from January 2025 all children will be expected to wear the updated uniform.**
- In addition, as part of this relaunch, we expect to be able to offer a brand-new red sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo free to any child that would like one.
- As we do now, we will continue to offer advice and support for families who may find uniform difficult to afford financially.

We have appreciated the support and effort that families have made this year to ensure our children come to school in the correct uniform, and we are looking forward to continuing to work together to ensure our children are smart, proud and have high expectations about presentation and participation in the life of our school. We would like to thank you for your support in understanding the changes we are making. As always, staff are available in our playgrounds at the beginning and end of the school day, so please do come and talk to us if you have any questions about any of this. We cannot promise we will be able to answer them all at this point in time, but we will try!

Kind regards

Mrs Gemma Harris (Headteacher) & the Fairholme Staff Team

We are keen to hear the views of parents and carers in relation to the following questions regarding our new uniform policy. If you would like to respond to this, please access our survey online here:

<https://forms.office.com/e/FgaF7nKQeq>

Our survey asks the following 4 questions, and has space for any further comments.

1. Are any of the listed items unreasonably expensive?
2. Are any of the listed items difficult to obtain?
3. Do you have concerns about any of the items listed?
4. How easy is the policy to understand? Is there anything we can make clearer?