

OAKDENE PRIMARY SCHOOL

UNIFORM POLICY



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1. Aims

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.

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 sex, race, religion or belief, and gender identity.

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 (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
 - Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
 - Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
 - Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents and carers to get in touch with the Principal or Vice Principal who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

3. Limiting the cost of 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 on the cost of school uniform.

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

We will make sure our uniform:

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

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-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 pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
 - Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
 - Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities

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- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents and carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
 - Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
 - Consulting with parents and, carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Oakdene Uniform Options

- Dark green sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan (no hoodies other than Y6 Leavers which are an optional special order in the summer term).
- Dark yellow polo shirt.
 - Grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore (no leggings, joggers or tracksuit bottoms).
- Green / white gingham dresses.
- Oakdene tartan skirts / pinafores.
- Sensible plain, black school shoes (no trainers, heels, sliders or flip-flops).

Uniform with school logo can be purchased from:

Rawcliffes	Uniformity
36 Prince Regent St Stockton-on-Tees TS18 1DF 01642 636650 www.rawcliffes-stockton.co.uk	11 High Street Norton TS20 1AH 01642 553148 www.uniformityschoolwear.net

Plain, dark green and dark yellow items without the logo can also be purchased online or sometimes in store from the following outlets Tesco, Asda, Matalan, Sainsbury's, Next, M&S, and Boyes etc.

A change of clothes is always a good idea for any little accidents that may occur. These should be left in school on your child's peg in a draw string bag. No back packs as these don't fit on our pegs and easily fall off or get knocked off causing a tripping hazard.

Outdoor Learning

To protect the children's school uniform when learning outside we provide outdoor kits for the children. Please send in named welly boots for children in Early Years (Sycamores, Nursery and Reception) and they can remain in school for daily outdoor play.

We provide aprons and oversized shirts for children participating in food technology and art and design lessons.

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PE Kit

Children from y1-Y6 will wear their PE kit to school on PE days. This does not need to be 'Oakdene' branded PE kit, it will be required that children should wear Oakdene's school colours (green and yellow t-shirts, green or black shorts and joggers). We have included some examples of suitable clothing that matches our uniform. Many of these are available via supermarkets, high street shops and uniform providers such as Elizabeth's Embroidery and Rawcliffes.



Alongside this, we ask for you to take note and adhere to the safety regulations to ensure your child is safe whilst participating in PE lessons and physical activity.

These are:

- Earrings to be removed / taped over
 - Long hair to be tied back
- Trainers or Plimsolls to be worn

As a reward, staff and teachers will be awarding **5 DOJO rewards** to each child who demonstrates '**PE readiness**'. This means that they are wearing the correct PE kit and are adhering to the safety rules.

We also have a selection of second-hand uniform and PE kit available. If you have any financial issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's class teacher. Please be assured that this would be dealt with in confidence. If you have any questions regarding PE kit, please feel free to get in touch.

Jewellery & Hair Accessories

- Small, plain stud earrings can be worn.
- Earrings must be removed for PE and swimming.
- Children's analogue watches are permitted. These do help to teach the time and are suitable from Year 1.
- Hair accessories should be minimal preferably in school colours, green or yellow (No large bows, flowers or decoration please).
- Long hair needs to be tied back for PE lessons and cooking activities and preferably throughout the day too.

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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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Principal if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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:

- Is clearly named
- Clean
- In good condition.

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 Principal if the situation doesn't improve. 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.

5.4 Governors

The Academy Improvement Committee 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 committee will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by continuing to signpost to a number of suppliers and supermarkets.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed at least every two years. At every review, it will be approved by the academy improvement committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Positive relationships and behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints policy

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Rights Respecting Schools

As a Rights Respecting School, we promote Article 28: Your right to an education and Article 16: Your right to privacy. This adheres to our school ethos.