



## School Uniform at Spa Bermondsey

**The school uniform at Spa Bermondsey is simple and flexible. We take the needs of each individual pupil into account and make sure school clothing makes them happy and safe.**

### **Our 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 reassignment.

To avoid discrimination we:

- 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- We adhere to the Halo Code
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Natasha Damree, Deputy Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### **Uniform costs and requirements**

As a special school, we are mindful that sensory issues can make the wearing of a school uniform difficult. Equally many of our pupils want to wear a uniform as this gives them a sense of community, pride and helps differentiate between weekday and weekend wear.

We make sure the uniform we offer 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:

- Making sure all families know items with school logos are not compulsory
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different key stage groups
- Providing the initial items of uniform for free, including our PE t shirt
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place to offer used uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

### **Our school's uniform**

The school has a simple dress code:

- White shirt or blouse or white or blue polo shirt or Spa polo shirt covering shoulders and stomach
- Grey or black trousers or joggers
- Skirts or dresses, worn to the knee
- Grey or black jumper or Spa fleece
- Blue fleece

Pupils in KS5 are not required to wear a school uniform.

If pupils are unable to wear certain uniform items please discuss this with Natasha Damree, the Deputy Headteacher.

For PE, your child will need:

- White t-shirt or Spa PE t shirt
- Navy blue/black shorts or joggers
- Trainers

### **Where to buy uniform**

You are welcome to buy uniform from any uniform provider. Most supermarkets offer very good value for money.

Fleeces and T Shirts with the school logo on can be bought directly from the school office. We ask that families use ParentPay to make these purchases wherever possible.

Used items are also available for any families who would like them. Please discuss this with the Deputy Headteacher.

We provide one fleece, Spa PE T shirt and Spa polo shirt for free when the pupil first joins.

## **Dress Code**

- Pupils should ensure that tops worn cover their shoulders and stomach
- Pupils should ensure that any dresses, skirts or shorts worn reach the knee
- Pupils should ensure that they wear closed toe shoes

## **Monitoring Arrangements**

### **Governors**

The local governing body 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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

They 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.

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the local governing body.

## **Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy