

Sidlesham Primary School

Uniform Policy



Date Agreed	March 2026
Prepared by	Sophia Koiston - Headteacher
Type	School Policy
Review Date	March 2027

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers best value for money for parents and carers
- Ensure the school complies with Department for Education statutory guidance on the cost of school uniform
- Explain how we avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify expectations for school uniform

At Sidlesham Primary School we believe that school uniform:

- promotes equality between pupils
- fosters a sense of belonging and pride in the school
- is practical and safe for school activities
- supports pupils in being ready to learn

Our School's Legal Duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination based on protected characteristics including:

- age
- sex
- sexual orientation
- disability
- race
- religion or belief
- pregnancy and maternity
- gender reassignment

To avoid discrimination our school will:

- Avoid specifying uniform items based on gender
- Ensure uniform costs are the same for all pupils
- Allow pupils to wear uniform that reflects their gender identity
- Allow pupils to have long hair (although it may need to be tied back for safety)
- Allow pupils to style their hair appropriately for school
- Allow pupils to wear religious garments such as headscarves
- Allow reasonable adjustments for pupils with medical, physical or sensory needs

The school recognises that some pupils, including those with special educational needs or sensory sensitivities, may experience difficulty wearing particular fabrics or items of clothing. Where this occurs, reasonable adjustments to uniform expectations will be considered in discussion with parents or carers.

Parents or pupils wishing to request adjustments should contact: Sophia Koiston - Headteacher

Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

The school follows the Department for Education statutory guidance on the cost of school uniform.

We recognise that requiring multiple branded items can increase costs and limit parents' ability to shop around.

Our uniform therefore:

- is available at reasonable cost
- provides best value for money
- allows most items to be purchased from a range of retailers

Branded item limits

In line with statutory guidance, Sidlesham Primary School requires no more than three compulsory branded items.

The three branded items are:

- Royal blue school jumper or cardigan with logo
- Royal blue PE t-shirt with school logo
- Royal blue school PE quarter-zip sports top with logo

All other items may be generic alternatives purchased from any retailer.

To keep uniform affordable we will:

- Limit compulsory branded items
- Allow generic alternatives wherever possible
- Avoid specifying coats, bags or shoes that must be purchased from specific suppliers
- Avoid different uniform requirements for different year groups
- Avoid different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Avoid requiring different branded items for different seasons

The school will also:

- Avoid single supplier contracts where possible
- Provide opportunities for families to obtain second-hand uniform
- Avoid frequent changes to uniform requirements
- Consult parents before making significant changes

Second-hand uniform is available through:

- PTA uniform sales
- school uniform exchange

Information about obtaining second-hand uniform is published on the school website and is available to both current and prospective families.

Families experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to contact the school for support.

Expectations for School Uniform

Our School Uniform

The Sidlesham Primary School uniform consists of:

- Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- Blue and white checked summer dress
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Royal blue school jumper or cardigan with logo
- Plain white, grey or black socks or tights

Optional items include:

- Royal blue fleece jacket
- Navy waterproof coat with school logo

Most items can be purchased from supermarkets or high-street retailers.

Generic alternatives are acceptable for most items.

Footwear

Pupils should wear plain black shoes or trainers that are practical and suitable for school activities.

Footwear should:

- allow pupils to run and play safely
- provide appropriate support for outdoor play
- be suitable for everyday school use

Fashion footwear, open-toed shoes, high heels, or footwear that may present a safety risk should not be worn.

Where trainers are worn, they should be plain black and suitable for school rather than fashion footwear.

The school does not require expensive branded footwear and encourages families to choose affordable, practical options.

PE Kit

PE kit consists of:

- Royal blue PE t-shirt with school logo
- Navy shorts
- Trainers or plimsolls

For colder weather pupils may wear:

- navy jogging bottoms
- the school PE quarter-zip sports top with logo

Generic alternatives may be worn where appropriate.

Jewellery

Jewellery should be minimal.

Permitted items:

- small gold or silver ear studs
- watches

Jewellery must be removed (or taped over with tape provided from home) for PE and swimming.

The school cannot take responsibility for lost jewellery.

Hair

Hair should be:

- clean
- tidy
- appropriate for school

Long hair should be tied back where necessary for safety.

Hair accessories should be small and in school colours:

- blue
- grey
- black
- blue and white check

Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school.

Hair colour should remain natural in appearance.

Make-up and Nails

Make-up and nail varnish should not be worn in school.

Artificial nails and nail extensions are not permitted as they present a safety risk.

Sun Safety

During warm weather pupils are encouraged to wear:

- a sun hat
- sunscreen applied before school

Sun hats should be removed during PE for safety reasons.

Weather Flexibility

During extreme weather conditions the school may adapt uniform expectations to ensure pupils remain safe and comfortable.

This may include allowing:

- additional layers in cold weather
- waterproof footwear during wet conditions
- sun protection during hot weather

Where to Purchase or Acquire Uniform

Branded items may be purchased from:

Game, Set and Match
Beaver Trade Park
Quarry Lane
Chichester
PO19 8NY

Some branded items may also be available directly from the school.

Generic items can be purchased from supermarkets or other retailers.

Second-hand uniform is available through:

- PTA uniform sales
- school uniform exchange
- requests through the school office

The school ensures second-hand uniform is available discreetly and in a timely manner.

Expectations for Our School Community

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (except on designated non-uniform days):

- on school premises
- travelling to and from school
- on school trips or events when representing the school

Pupils may request adjustments to uniform if required due to protected characteristics.

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are expected to ensure that their child:

- wears the correct uniform
- brings the correct PE kit
- has clothing that is clean, labelled and in good condition

All clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name.

Parents should contact the school if they require:

- uniform support
- adjustments to the policy
- help accessing second-hand uniform

Concerns about uniform will be handled through the school complaints policy.

Staff

Staff will monitor pupils to ensure they are wearing appropriate uniform.

Where pupils are not in correct uniform:

- staff will provide reminders

- families will be given reasonable time to resolve the issue

Where financial hardship is suspected, staff will take a supportive and sensitive approach.

In line with statutory guidance, pupils will not miss classroom learning due to uniform sanctions.

Persistent issues may be addressed in accordance with the Behaviour Policy.

The school may provide spare uniform items where necessary to support pupils during the school day.

Governors

The governing board will review this policy to ensure it:

- is appropriate for the school's context
- is implemented fairly
- reflects the views of parents and pupils
- provides a uniform that is practical and affordable

Governors will ensure supplier arrangements prioritise cost and value for money, including avoiding unnecessary single-supplier contracts.

Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher.

At every review it will be approved by the full governing board.

Links to Other Policies

This policy should be read alongside:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Information and Objectives
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

Lost Property

To reduce lost property and ensure items can be returned to pupils, all uniform items must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

Unlabelled items may be placed in lost property and disposed of or donated if not claimed after a reasonable period.