

Higher Bebington Junior School

Uniform Policy



Aims

Higher Bebington Junior School is committed to promoting equality and value for money, and to ensuring that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

This policy has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure pupils wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment. It is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform. We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports-specific attire.

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- **[New]** The General Data Protection Regulation
- **[New]** Data Protection Act 2018

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2013) 'School uniform'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- SEND Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy

Roles and responsibilities

The **governing board** is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The **headteacher** is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.

- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Teachers are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.
- To remind children to wear school uniform correctly.
- The class teacher will speak to children who do not wear the correct uniform.
- To liaise with parents where children are not wearing the correct uniform.
- To refer to the Headteacher if issues continue or parents indicate that they need support with this.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.
- Ensuring all uniform is correctly labelled.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.

Cost and availability

- In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the school ensures that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.
- The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.
- The majority of our uniform does not have a logo and as a result can be purchased from a range of retailers including supermarkets. Where school specific items are required- the school tie and jumpers/cardigans- the school uses multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible.
- The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.
- The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms.
- Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents struggling to meet the associated costs.

Religious clothing

- Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community.
- The school endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met where possible.

- Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Equality

- The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.
- Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of girls' and boys' uniforms are not disproportionate.
- The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.

Complaints and challenges

- The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.
- When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

School uniform supplier

The majority of our uniform can be bought from a range of retailers including supermarkets. The main uniform suppliers where items containing our school logo can be purchased are:

The Other Uniform Store

Brimstage Hall Courtyard, Brimstage Road, Brimstage, Wirral, CH63 6JA
0151 348 4041

Wirral Uniform Centre

2A Princes Pavement, Birkenhead, Wirral, CH41 2XY
0151 647 9588

Uniform assistance

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. Where parents are having difficulties in meeting the cost of the school uniform, they should contact the Headteacher via the School Office to discuss the matter.

Our Uniform

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible. Pupils who identify as the opposite sex to their birth sex are permitted to wear the uniform of their preferred gender.

Winter:

- Navy blue school sweatshirt cardigan/ v neck sweatshirt/ v neck tank top ideally with the school logo
- Grey pinafore type dress or skirt or trousers (not leggings or joggers)
- White blouse/shirt
- School tie

- Plain grey/black or grey/black tights
- Flat black shoes (no boots/ankle boots)
- Trainers in any colour are not permitted unless

Summer:

- Option of changing to blue and white gingham check dress or grey shorts

P.E. Kit:

On PE days, the children should come into school in their PE kits. Parents/cares will be informed of their child's PE day and any changes.

- White t-shirt ideally with school logo
- Navy/black shorts
- Plain navy or black tracksuit (for colder weather)
- Trainers

Football kits and brightly coloured sports wear are not permitted.

Swimming:

- One piece swimming costume or trunks (not swimming shorts), towel, bathing cap or hair band for long hair.

Jewellery:

Children are allowed to wear:

- One pair of plain, small earrings – must be removed for any PE activity
- Wristwatch - must be removed for any PE activity General

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

Hair/Make Up:

- Plain coloured hair bobbles (black, blue, grey, white) and hairbands (no flowers, bows or similar)
- The school does not allow extremes of hair fashions i.e. no lines, patterns, shaved heads, spiky hair or dying of hair.
- No nail varnish or nail extensions
- No make up
- The school reserves the right to make a judgement on the suitability of pupils' hair and appearance.
- Extreme hairstyles, such as mohawks and patterned or brightly coloured hair, are unacceptable.
- Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds, taking into consideration each individual pupil's scenario.

Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with their name.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years by the Governing Board and the headteacher.