

Eastlea Primary School

School Uniform Policy



Approved by:	Mrs D Oliver (Chair of Governors) on behalf of the Governing Body	Date: July 2026
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Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform	2
4. Expectations for school uniform	3
5. Expectations for our school community	4
6. Monitoring arrangements.....	6
7. Links to other policies	6

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: age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

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, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back
- › Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- › Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- › Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- › Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform, depending on their specific needs
- › Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Miss E Beeston (Head Teacher) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo or be in a unique fabric or style) 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:

- › Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 or fewer
- › Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible
- › Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- › Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible for example, by not insisting that uniform items have to include the school logo
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as book bags, sweatshirts/cardigans and tracksuits
- › Sourcing the cheapest and best value school-branded items from local suppliers as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- › Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups/classes.
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- › Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- › Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating labels for pupils to wear with rocket group colours on sports day
- › Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- › Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website (e.g. providing contact details for the Hope Centre in Cramlington)
- › 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 uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- › Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- › Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Uniform list:

- Sweatshirt/cardigan in navy blue (with or without the Eastlea logo)
[N.B. school hoodies are not to be worn other than on PE days]
- White / light blue shirt or polo shirt
- Grey / black trousers/shorts or skirt (leggings are not appropriate)
- Summer option – **blue** check/stripe dress

- Black school shoes – or plain black trainers (NOT other coloured trainers please)
***We also allow plain totally black trainers as part of school uniform. Plain black trainers can therefore be worn on both uniform and PE days to avoid families having the expense of buying a pair of school shoes AND a different pair of trainers. If you wish to continue with black school shoes (for uniform days) and a different pair of trainers for PE days (another colour) that is fine.*

PE kit:

- Dark blue/black tracksuit bottoms/and hoodie with the school logo – or PLAIN navy tracksuit without logos
- Plain white t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- Younger children can wear black sandshoes or bare feet for indoor PE

Swimming kit: (this is usually only required for Year 4 in the term that they complete swimming lessons)

- Swimming trunks/shorts or one piece costume
- Goggles (optional)

Jewellery:

No jewellery can be worn in school and we have a policy of **NO EARRINGS** (plastic ‘spacers’ can be worn instead of earrings if required)

N.B. If parents/carers are thinking of getting a child’s ears pierced they are advised that this needs to be done at the very start of the summer holidays so earrings can be removed before pupils return to school in September.

Hairstyles:

- We follow our legal duties (see section 2) and ask that pupils have an appropriate hair style for school.
- Long hair needs to be tied back.

Bags/coats:

- Children will be asked to come to school dressed in their PE kits on PE days or specific activity days so PE bags are not required.
- We recommend a reading folder/book bag for Early Years/KS1 and lower KS2 pupils – this means that letters, reading books etc can be brought to and from school safely each day (these are available for sale from Emblematic with the Eastlea logo as an option)
- A school bag is useful, especially in KS2 or to bring additional items into school. These should be small enough to be stored in the cloakroom areas safely.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Eastlea school uniform can be obtained in 3 ways:

- › From supermarkets/high street retailers
- › From Emblematic who source cost effective optional uniform items with a school logo (sweatshirts/cardigans, tracksuits and book bags)
- › From local second-hand uniform providers, e.g. the Hope Centre in Cramlington who provide pre-loved uniform free for those families who require it.

N.B. any unwanted/outgrown uniform can also be handed in to school where a small stock is retained on site for those who may need it – with other items donated to the Hope Centre for wider distribution.

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 visits that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact their class teacher who will liaise with Miss E Beeston (Head Teacher) 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:

- › Clean
- › Clearly labelled with the child's name
- › In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact Miss E Beeston (Head Teacher) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- › Their child's protected characteristics
- › The cost of the uniform

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- › Resolved locally
- › Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Miss E Beeston (Head Teacher) in discussion with parents/carers.

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

5.4 Governors

The 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

The Governors 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Chair of Governors on behalf of the Governing Body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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