



WHERE STARS SHINE

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Policy Lead Committee: Local Academy Committee

In consultation with: Senior Leadership Team

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'RCF', on a light blue background.

Date: 25th September 2024

Policy Date: Autumn 2024

Review Date: Autumn 2026

Review Frequency: 2 Years



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'WHERE STARS SHINE'

1. Introduction

UNITED NATIONS COVENTION ON THE RIGHTS of the CHILD

Article 27 Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

2. 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

3. 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, 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 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 a 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 related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- 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 The head teacher on 01594 842789 who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis



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4. 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform. We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
 - Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
 - 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, bags and shoes
 - Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
 - Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/classes
 - Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
 - Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
 - Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire preloved uniform items
 - Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
 - Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

5. Expectations for School Uniform

5.1 Our Schools Uniform

Plain blue or white blouse or polo shirt

Black, grey or navy blue skirt/trousers or pinafore dress (not denim)

Jade coloured 'Severnbanks' sweatshirt or cardigan

Black shoes



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5.2 PE Kit

Plain white T-shirt

Black or navy shorts

White, black or navy socks

Black daps (plimsolls, pumps)

Swimming Kit: (Year 4/5/6 currently) Black or navy one-piece swimsuit or swim trunks/shorts above the knee

5.3 Jewellery

All jewellery and other personal effects such as watches, necklaces, ear piercings etc must be removed for physical education and related activities.

Ideally, jewellery other than watches should not be worn to school in the first place,

Where jewellery is worn, it must be removed for physical activities

If under exceptional circumstances it cannot be removed (eg. cultural practice or newly pierced ears), the risk of injury should be reduced where it is practicable to do so. This could be by:

Studs being secured by the use of micropore tape or masking tape (not Elastoplast or Sellotape) but care must be taken to cover the spike at the back of the ear lobe effectively

Although the element of risk can be reduced by the use of tape, those actions do not make the situation safe.

Similar action may be agreed when a child or young person has had his/her ears newly pierced, but only for an agreed period of four full weeks. Current medical opinion states this time (four weeks) for the normal healing process to be completed.

Teachers and other school staff should not involve themselves in the process of earring removal or taping.

The simplest option is for children not to wear jewellery to school on P.E days. It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to apply micropore tape before school if it is required, and to train their children to take out and to put in earrings. Such training will support the policy of the school and enable teachers to ensure that children and young people are dressed safely for PE activity.

We encourage children to take responsibility for their own personal effects.

5.4 Hair

Hairstyles should be reasonable and appropriate for being in a learning environment at school. Extreme hairstyles, such as shaved patterns in the scalp, Mohicans and unnaturally coloured dyes are not acceptable at school. Long hair needs to be pulled back with a bobble, in a ponytail, plaits or bun.

Hair bands and bobbles should be plain black or navy and bows on clips and bobbles should be small in plain black or navy. All children, girls and boys, are required to have their hair tied back, if long enough, for PE and swimming lessons.



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5.5 Makeup

Makeup and cosmetics are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform and therefore should not be worn.

5.6 Nail Varnish and Gel Nails

Nail varnish, gel nails or false nails should not be worn to school.

6. Inclusion

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their race, religion, gender, disability or ability. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a child with disabilities then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher.

The school will not treat children with disabilities unfavourably.

Severnbanks Primary is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation, discrimination and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

7. Where to Purchase Uniform

There are two suppliers of Severnbanks uniform: <https://myclothing.com/ueslink/7525.school> and [PMG Schoolwear - Schools - Severnbanks Primary School - Lydney](#). Uniform can be purchased online.

In addition, we offer a preloved selection of uniform. This can be obtained through contacting the school office on 01594 842789 or through our PTFA Prelove pop up shops which are held throughout the school year.

8. Expectations for Our School Community

8.1 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)



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Pupils are also expected to contact the head teacher on 01594 842789 if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

8.2 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 the head teacher on 01594 842789 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.

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.

8.3 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 a conversation 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.

8.4 The Local Academy Committee

The Local Academy 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



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- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The school 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.

9. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

This policy is available on the school website: [Severnbanks Primary School - Policies](#)

Paper copies are available on request from the School Office.