



Striving together for excellence and enjoyment

Uniform Policy

Policy updated: January 2023
Policy Review: January 2025

Signed (Headteacher)

Signed (Chair of Governors)

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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 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
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Jenn Magdeburg (HT) or Sam McDonald (AHT), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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 uniform.

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 items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- 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 years or 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
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

There is a compulsory school uniform which we expect children to wear from entry into our Reception. All items of clothing worn are permitted either *with or without the school logo*.

Hair

For Health and Safety requirements as well as maintaining high standards of tidiness, children are required to have long hair tied back and to avoid extreme haircuts which are not appropriate for school. Hair bands and scrunchies should be simple and in the school colours.

Make up and jewellery

Nail varnish and make up are not allowed. The only jewellery permitted in school are studs for pierced ears and watches, which need to be removed for PE lessons or not worn on these days.

Footwear

All pupils should wear black shoes or plain black trainers with no logos or colour. These must be entirely black. Boots are not allowed. During the summer months children may also wear sandals, with socks. Sandals, which can be black or white, must be sturdy, low heeled and securely fitted around the ankle and the toe. 'Croc' style shoes and flip flops are not considered suitable. All children will need a pair of trainers for outside PE and may be encouraged to use these if playing on the field at breaks, particularly if the ground is muddy. If outdoor boots are worn to walk to school in the winter months, these should be changed to school shoes.

Clothing

- Navy sweatshirts, jumpers or cardigans (with or without logo)
- Grey skirts, trousers, shorts or pinafores (not jogging bottoms, denim or leggings)
- Sky blue shirts, blouses or polo shirts.
- Navy, white or grey tights or socks
- Black shoes or plain black trainers with no logos or colour.

In summer, dresses within the blue and white colour scheme may be worn.

PE kit

Indoor PE

A blue PE t-shirt with house colour/a sky blue t shirt (this needs to be a change of top)
Blue/black shorts

Outdoor PE lessons

A blue PE t-shirt with house colour
Blue/black shorts or jogging bottoms (no leggings)
A navy blue jumper or fleece
Trainers

4. Purchasing

Parents and carers can obtain the uniform non branded items from a range of 'high-street' retailers such as Tesco, Asda etc.

Alternatively items including school uniform, book bags and PE Bags can be purchased from Beat Clothing in Hitchin or by following this link
https://beatschooluniforms.co.uk/schools/pirton_school/

5. Expectations

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Members of the school community are expected to contact Jenn Magdeburg (HT) or Sam McDonald (AHT) via admin@pirton.herts.sch.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 are also expected to contact Jenn Magdeburg (HT) or Sam McDonald (AHT) via admin@pirton.herts.sch.uk 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 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.