

2024

# Old Catton Junior School Uniform Policy



Nebula  
where stars are born

NEBULA FEDERATION



## **Uniform Policy**

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## **Introduction**

- We believe school uniform is extremely important to:
- give children a sense of belonging to our school community
- ensure children look smart, reflecting the high standards of our school
- create equality in terms of appearance
- provide affordable, durable clothing, suitable for the purpose
- easily identifying children when on school trips and visits.

**Please ensure that all clothing and footwear is clearly named.**

## **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, having taken full account of the Education Act 2021 (Guidance about Cost of School Uniform)
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

## **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:

- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking parents to get in touch with the Head of School who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

## **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 understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have 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' 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 featuring the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- 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

### **Expectations for school uniform**

There is no expectation to purchase branded items for the school uniform. Branded cardigans and sweater are available with details found at the school office.

### **Our school's uniform:**

#### **Boys Uniform**

Trousers: dark grey, black or navy

Shirts/Blouses: sky blue or white

Polo Shirts: sky blue, white or navy

Sweaters/Cardigans: navy

Shorts (tailored): grey, navy or black

#### **PLEASE NOTE the following are NOT acceptable:**

Jeans

Tracksuits (except for PE)

Leggings

Hoodies

#### **Footwear**

Children may come into school in either school shoes or trainers. As the school field can become muddy, it is expected that children change into indoor shoes on entering the buildings. No shoes with heels are allowed.

### **Girls Uniform**

Trousers: dark grey, black or navy

Shirts/Blouses: sky blue or white

Polo Shirts: sky blue, white or navy

Sweaters/Cardigans: navy

Shorts (tailored): grey, navy or black

Skirts/Pinafore Dresses: grey, navy or black

Summer Dresses: blue/white gingham

### **PLEASE NOTE the following are NOT acceptable:**

Jeans

Tracksuits (except for PE)

Leggings

Hoodies

### **Footwear**

Children may come into school in either school shoes or trainers. As the school field can become muddy, it is expected that children change into indoor shoes on entering the buildings. No shoes with heels are allowed.

### **P.E. Kit**

#### **Boys and Girls:**

- House coloured t-shirt available from school, or plain white, round necked t-shirt
- White or navy shorts
- Trainers (outside)
- Tracksuits are recommended for all children, especially during the winter months – we WILL go outside when it's cold!
- Shin pads and gum shields for Hockey and Tag Rugby lessons

### **PLEASE NOTE the following is NOT acceptable:**

- any clothing with logos (other than the school logo), slogans or pictures.

## **Swimming Kit**

- Swimming Costume
- Swimming Trunks (no baggy/loose shorts)
- Swimming Hat
- Goggles
- Hair should be tied up

### **PLEASE NOTE the following is NOT acceptable:**

- Nail Varnish
- Jewellery – other than as stated below.
- Fake Tattoos

## **Jewellery**

- Children may wear small stud earrings (no hoops or dangling ear rings) Earrings will not be taped over so must be removed for sporting activities
- A classic watch may be worn (no smart watches)
- No other jewellery is permitted without the approval of the Head of School

## **Where to purchase it**

School retains a very small number of sweatshirts and cardigans but can provide details of the local provider if parents wish to purchase a branded item with the school logo. All other items of clothing can be purchased readily from large supermarkets and high street retailers. School often has a collection of unclaimed and donated school uniform which is available from the school office. Parents may select any items free of charge.

## **Expectations for our school community**

### **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)

### **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 the head teacher via the school office 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.

### **Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply but will follow up with the Head of School if the situation doesn't improve. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Head of School. 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.

### **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, affordable, practical and safe for all pupils

### **Monitoring arrangements**

The school shall be responsible for reviewing this policy from time to time, ensuring that it meets legal requirements and reflects best practice.

### **Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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

