

# Uniform Policy (Pupils)

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## 1. Introduction

It is our policy that all pupils should wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school organised event outside school. We provide a complete list of items needed for school uniform within this policy.

It is our aim to keep uniform consistent. We ask that parents/carers support our effort to make all aspects of our school outstanding and we believe, as far as possible, a strict adherence to our uniform policy helps.

## 2. Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- Gives a feeling of community and belonging;
- Supports positive behaviour and discipline;
- Is practical and smart;
- Identifies the pupils in the school and encourages identity within the school;
- Makes pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Prevents pupils coming into school in fashion and designer label clothing that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition; and
- Is regarded as suitable and good value for money by most parents / carers.

## 3. The role of parents / carers

We ask all parents / carers who send their child to school to support the school uniform policy.

The school welcomes pupils from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are strong reasons (eg on religious grounds) why parents / carers want their child to dress in clothing that differs from the school uniform, the school will give consideration to such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities then parents / carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the head teacher.

## 4. The role of Governors

The Governing Board supports the head teacher in implementing the school uniform policy and liaises with the head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps pupils to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

### 5. Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we only allow pupils to wear minimal jewellery. One small pair of stud earrings, a watch and one small signet type ring is allowed. Nose rings are not permitted, students must cover with tape or wear a clear flat stud.

All jewellery must be removed before PE lessons. If earrings cannot be removed, they must be covered by tape.

Nails should be kept to an appropriate length to accommodate health and safety requirements in school. False nails are not permitted.

### 6. Haircuts and general appearance

The school does not permit pupils to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other pupils. Long hair can be tied back and ribbons, bobbles, hair bands and slides should be simple in style and size. In specialist areas / rooms, where health and safety dictates, hair must be tied back.

Minimal makeup is allowed in school. Any pupil coming into school with excessive makeup will be asked to remove it

### 7. Footwear

Pupils should wear black shoes or all black trainers to school. We believe that it is dangerous for pupils to wear shoes with platform soles, open toed sandals or high heels in school so we do not allow this. Black boots are acceptable during the winter months. Our school promotes the wearing of practical shoes. Pupils with hypermobility may wear shoes appropriate to support their feet, parents should notify school in these circumstances.



### 8. Uniform

Uniform with the school logo can be ordered via local uniform suppliers. Pupils can wear generic, uniform items that are available from general stores.

Pupils should wear:

- Black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress;
- White polo shirt (with or without logo);

- Black jumper or cardigan (with or without logo) please note hoodies are not part of school uniform; and
- Black shoes or all black trainers.

Pupils in Phase 1 and 2 are allowed to wear a black and white checked uniform dress or knee length black uniform shorts during the summer months.

Pupils in phase 1 who are still in nappies or pull ups may wear plain black jogging trousers in order to make changing easier. Once toilet trained pupils will be required to adhere to the usual uniform policy.

PE uniform:

- White t-shirt (with or without logo);
- Black PE shorts or plain black jogging trousers (small branding logos are acceptable); and
- Trainers (any colour trainers)

It is expected that pupils wear their PE uniform for after school clubs involving a sporting activity (eg football club).

It is expected that pupils taking part in sporting competitions and PE activities outside of school wear the school's kit.

### **Outdoor education / offsite opportunities / personal development activities**

Pupils at Epinau often take part in activities which require them to wear different clothing (eg, outdoor education or personal development activities). Where these activities take place during the school day, pupils are to wear black jogging bottoms, white tshirt, polo shirt or school shirt and black jumper or hoodie.

### **9. Extreme weather**

Pupils should dress appropriately for extreme weather conditions. In the summer it is vital that pupils have protective sun cream applied before school. Boots and sufficiently waterproof coats should be provided in wet or snowy conditions.

### **10. Lost property**

In order to return lost property, all uniform items should be clearly marked with the pupil's name.

### **11. Non compliance with the school uniform policy**

If a pupil comes into school not wearing full school uniform staff will call parents / carers asking them to come into school with the relevant items of uniform. The pupil will be asked to change into uniform items. If the pupil refuses to change into uniform items, parents / carers will be called to attend school to discuss with a member of staff and the pupil.

Policy approved by Governors: May 2026

Date of next review by Governors: May 2027