



Carlton VC Church of England Primary School

Uniform Policy 2025

'I am the vine, you are the branches; those that abide in me and I in them will bear much fruit' (John 15:5)

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Governors

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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, 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 headteacher through admin@carltonvcprimary.co.uk 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 (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. Therefore, at Carlton VC Primary we have made sure that you are able to this.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost from most retail outlets.
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Ensuring all of our uniform will not need a parent to buy any items with distinctive characteristics,
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items for example: The school bag.
- 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 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/carers to acquire second-hand 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Our school uniform consists of a winter and a summer uniform.

Autumn/Winter	Spring/Summer
<p>Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress Royal blue jumper/sweatshirt or cardigan. Grey skirt, pinafore dress, trousers or shorts</p> <p>Grey or white socks</p> <p>Black or navy blue School shoes (make sure children can fasten and unfasten them independently)</p> <p>PE Kit</p> <p>Each child will need a school P.E. bag containing: a white T-shirt, plain navy shorts, plimsolls (preferably the pull-on or Velcro variety) and plain navy track suit bottoms.</p> <p>No Jewellery except a watch (non-smart variety) or small stud earrings to be worn to school. Earrings may not be worn for PE and must be removed or have tape secured over the stud. No Earrings can be worn for swimming they must be removed (no tape can be worn due to it becoming loose and clogging filters.)</p> <p><u>All items (including the bag) should be clearly labelled with the child's name.</u></p> <p>P.E. bags and the book bags with the school logo are available to order from the school.</p> <p>We ask all parents to provide their children with a named water bottle, which they bring into school <u>filled with water only please</u>, each day.</p>	<p>Grey trousers, shorts, skirt, pinafore dress. Light blue/white gingham summer dress/short suit. White polo shirt White/grey socks</p> <p>Black/Navy school shoes. (make sure children can fasten and unfasten them independently)</p> <p>PE Kit</p> <p>Each child will need a school P.E. bag containing: a white T-shirt, plain navy shorts, plimsolls (preferably the pull-on or Velcro variety)</p> <p>No Jewellery except a watch (non-smart variety) or small stud earrings to be worn to school. Earrings may not be worn for PE and must be removed or have tape secured over the stud. No Earrings can be worn for swimming they must be removed (no tape can be worn due to it becoming loose and clogging filters.)</p> <p><u>All items (including the bag) should be clearly labelled with the child's name.</u></p> <p>P.E. bags and the book bags with the school logo are available to order from the school.</p> <p>We ask all parents to provide their children with a named water bottle, which they bring into school <u>filled with water only please</u>, each day.</p>

4.2 Where to purchase it

Most of our items can be purchased from high street retailers. If you wish to have a branded item – please contact the office and they will advise what items are available to order. This may take longer as 8 items are needed per order.

At Carlton Primary, the PTFA also keep some items of second-hand uniform that can be bought at a reasonable price. Please contact the office for further details.

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

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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 the Headteacher 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.

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 sending a letter home to parents requesting that they comply with the uniform policy.

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.

5.4 Governors

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

The board 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 (if used).

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the headteacher and at every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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