



School uniform policy

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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

We want to ensure that our uniform policy supports children in feeling comfortable, safe and ready to learn. We have a school uniform in place with the aim that it supports a sense of belonging for our children. Our uniform is designed to be comfortable and practical. In our feeder infant schools, a school uniform is available but not required. In the children's destination secondary schools, they will be expected to wear a formal uniform. At Riverside we have considered carefully how to bridge these different expectations.

We are keen to limit the environmental impact of our uniform and as such pre-loved uniform items are always available free of charge. Parents / carers are encouraged to write their child's name in uniform items to minimize waste.

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 in very active lessons, PE lessons and learning activities such as cooking)
- 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
- 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 a member of SLT, 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.

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
- Budget for providing free school uniform to any child/family in receipt of pupil premium funding
- 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 except in Year 6, where the grey hoodie will be provided free of charge by the school
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items – these items can be found in the front office and if there is a specific item, please talk with a member of the office team who may be able to help.
- 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

Riverside children are expected to wear our school uniform displaying the Riverside logo:

- Emerald green polo shirt with Riverside logo
- Black hoody with Riverside logo
- Black trousers, skirt, culottes or leggings (unbranded).
- Suitable black shoes/trainers (no colours or logos or brands)

Children play outside almost every day, and therefore need to bring a coat with them. They need sensible shoes which parents are happy for them to play out in.

PE

A P.E. kit is available to purchase from school and consists of:

- a black T-Shirt with the Riverside logo on
- black shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings.

All children will be expected to remove jewellery (including earrings) for P.E. to avoid injury to themselves and others. If your child cannot remove earrings independently, please take them out at home on PE and swimming days. We cannot accept responsibility for lost jewellery.

To increase the amount of time children are involved in PE, they are allowed to arrive at school already changed and ready.

4.2 Where to purchase it

All uniform can be ordered through the website at [Uniform — Riverside Junior School](#)

Parents can only purchase school uniform direct through School Money or at the office direct (though we no longer accept cash – but do have a card reader)

Pre loved uniform items are always available free of charge.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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 a member of the SLT 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 where appropriate

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.2 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform and make sure families know when the appropriate days for wearing their PE tops are.

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 and talk with the senior leadership team if there is any support we can give.

5.3 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

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the SLT. At every review, it will be approved by the governors of HBSF.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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