

COPPICE
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Uniform Policy

Date	Review Date	Endorsed by	Approved by	Link Governor
February 2026	February 2028	FGB	Governing Body	FGB

Aspire, Believe, Achieve, Thrive











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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 school office, 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- 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

Whilst we have uniform branded with the Coppice logo available, we also welcome children to wear plain uniform available from local supermarkets. Branded uniform is optional. There should be no labels or motifs on any of the clothes children wear to school. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name.

For every day:

Royal Blue sweatshirt or cardigan

White polo shirt or shirt

Charcoal grey skirt, that sit just above the knee, grey dress, grey trousers or grey leggings

Blue and white gingham dress

Charcoal grey shorts or charcoal grey cycling shorts that sit just above the knee (not hot pants, not mid thigh)

Religious clothing such as the hijab and patka should be royal blue, white, black or charcoal grey

Children should wear black shoes or trainers with no/hard to see logo, labels or motifs suitable for an active day

For PE:

Plain T Shirt in house colour

Plain black shorts, leggings, knee length cycling shorts or tracksuit bottoms

Trainers suitable for running and jumping

For swimming children can wear:

swimming costume

swimming trunks or shorts

tight fitting leggings

long sleeved swimming costume

They must provide a hat and a towel

Any colour is permitted.

Bikinis and Bermuda shorts are not allowed

Jewellery:

Jewellery, other than small stud earrings, should NOT be worn to school. The school will have no responsibility for items of jewellery which are lost or misplaced. Stud earrings should be removed for PE or covered with microtape.

Religious jewellery such as a Kara or a baptismal cross should be worn inside the clothing and not on show. We ask that religious jewellery is not worn on PE days if possible. If it must be worn, then a Kara must be covered with sweatbands for PE and a necklace will be taped down. Non-religious jewellery is not permitted.

Make up:

No make up allowed, only colour-less lip balm for chapped lips.

Shoes:

Children should wear black shoes or trainers with no/hard to see logos, labels or motifs.

Bags:

Book bags with a logo are available from the school office or from parentmail

Children should not need any other bag for school but if they do, we ask that this is a small rucksack

Coats:

Children should have a coat suitable for the time of year:

Thick winter coat

Rain coat

4.2 Where to purchase it

All uniform should be available from supermarkets and high street shops.

Uniform with the school logo is available from:

Myclothing.com

School book bags are available from the school office or ordered through Parentmail

School PE tops can be ordered from the school office

Second hand uniform is available from the main entrance of the school. A small donation is appreciated.

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 a member of the Senior Leadership team 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 a member of the Senior Leadership team 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 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.

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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years by the Executive Headteacher. 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