Goat Lees Primary School

Uniform Policy

Draft Prepared	14/05/2025
Date Agreed	22/05/2025
Signed by Headteacher	
Signed (Chair of Governors	N Bellman
Date Policy to be Reviewed	2 Years or as required

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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

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies the children with the school
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers

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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Ms Adams who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. Appointments can be made through the school office.

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 on the cost of school uniform.

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. We only require the school logo to be on jumpers/cardigans and our PE tops

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- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as trousers, skirts, shorts and shirts
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Available from the Uniform Supplier:

- School Jumper/School Cardigan
- Green & Purple Tie, optional for Key Stage 1 but should be worn in Key Stage 2
- School Book Bag (optional)
- School Zipped Fleece/Waterproof (optional)
- Purple Check Dress (Summer Terms only)

Available from large supermarket chains or High Street stores:

- White Shirt or polo shirt
- Charcoal Grey Trousers
- Charcoal Grey Shorts
- Charcoal Grey Skirt
- Black Shoes/footwear (no open-toed sandals or heels higher than 2cm)

PE Kit:

- School PE T-Shirt (available from Uniform Supplier)
- Plain Black PE Shorts Track Suit bottoms or similar for winter outdoor lessons
- Trainers for outdoor PE
- Socks or tights should be in a suitable plain colour such as black, grey or white

- On health and safety grounds, children should not wear jewellery to school with the exception of watches or stud earrings. We ask the children either to remove these objects during PE and games, or to cover them with appropriate tape.
- We encourage appropriate hairstyles and ask that children do not have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Long hair should be tied back with appropriate hairbands/clips.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Our school jumpers/cardigans and PE tops can be purchased from Kent School wear – there is a link on our website. Shirts, polo shirts, trousers, shorts, shirts and dresses, which do not contain our logo, can be purchased from many shops and supermarkets.
- Second hand uniform can sometimes be obtained from the school. This will also be available at some of our school events such as Waste not Want not or uniform sales.

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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)
- It is essential that children wear the appropriate clothes for physical activities. PE kit should be worn on the days when children are participating in Games/PE lessons

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 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 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.

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.

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

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