



**Lavington Park Federation**

*Uniform Policy*

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Approved by

Governing Board February 2025

Next Review

Spring term 2028

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### 1. Intent

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- Promotes the ethos of our school and a sense of pride
- Provides a sense of belonging and school community
- Creates a shared identity and common sense of purpose
- Supports our commitment to inclusion
- Promotes positive behaviour for learning with the aim of enabling all children to achieve their potential

### 2. Objectives

This policy aims to:

- i. Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for Parents and Carers.
- ii. Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- iii. Clarify our expectations for school uniform.

### 3. Legislation and Guidance

Our school's legal duties under the Equalities 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 children 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 children
- Allow all children to have long hair (though we expect this to be tied back) and to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable

- Allow children to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow children to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking children or their parents to get in touch with Mr Beckerson (Headteacher) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

#### **4. Limiting the cost of school uniform**

We know that our diverse community appreciate our traditional approach to school uniform and parents and visitors have always said how their children feel proud to wear our uniform and how it raises their self-esteem.

Our school does have 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 understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that require 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' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides the best value for money for Parents and Carers. We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics as 'optional' so parents can find cheaper alternatives if required
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as bags and coats
- Avoiding specific requirements for items children 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 groups
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items at very low cost
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on Parents and Carers of any changes
- Consulting with Parents, Carers and Children on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

#### **5. Expectations for the school uniform**

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or on occasions when children are representing the school, including school visits. We endeavour to achieve a high standard in all aspects of school and expect this to be reflected in both the appearance and behaviour of our children.

Uniform plays an important part in establishing the ethos of the school in several

ways. We believe that school uniform provides children with a sense of community and identity with their school. We want our children to be smart in their uniform and wear it with pride.

Parents and Carers are asked to co-operate fully by providing the uniform and ensuring children wear it correctly to and from school, and at other times as required. We also ask that all items of clothing and other items brought into school (e.g. bags, water bottles, lunchboxes) are clearly marked with your child's name.

## **6. Personal Appearance**

Pupils are not allowed to wear hats, headscarves, or any other head covering inside the school building unless it is due to religious or cultural reasons. Any head covering for religious or cultural values or hair accessories that are worn such as slides, ribbons, bobbles etc. should be discreet and in navy blue, black, green or purple in line with the school uniform colours.

### ***Headwear and Religious Clothing***

- Religious headwear may be worn (for religious purposes only) and should be either plain black or navy.
- Baseball caps and bandanas may not be worn as part of everyday uniform.

### ***Hair***

- Pupils' hair should be neatly groomed at all times for smartness and health and safety. Long hair on both girls and boys should be tied back using school colour hair bands.
- Extreme styles and hair colouring will not be permitted (as defined by the school).
- Shaved lines in hair or eyebrows are not permitted.

### ***Make-Up***

- Nail varnish and make-up is not permitted.
- Nails should not be a length that may cause injury to others (as defined by the school).

### ***Jewellery/tattoos/piercings***

- Pupils may not wear any jewellery except for one small watch only (no sound effects or games).
- Pupils are allowed to wear one pair of stud earrings, and they must be worn in the lower ear lobe. All studs must be removed for PE or taped. Please note that the school does not take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.
- Body piercing is prohibited, with the exception of single, standard ear piercing. No other forms of body piercing will be allowed for any pupil.

### ***Coats and Bags***

- Coats, when they need to be worn, should be a plain colour and style compatible with school uniform and student safety. It is recommended that detachable luminous strips and/or arm bands are used by cyclists and walkers in the winter months.

- Jackets or coats that the school deems as 'hoodies' are not permitted. Logos are not allowed. Leather, denim, sheepskin, sports tops, hoodies, or large jumpers must not be worn instead of a coat.
- All parents/carers of children at Graffham Infants are expected to purchase a school book-bag.

## **7. Arrangements for school uniform**

### **7.1 Where to purchase school uniform: supplier details**

School uniform items distinctive to the school (i.e, with logo or distinctive colour/fabric/design) can be purchased online from:

<http://www.lpf.deco-uniforms.com/shop>

Uniform items that are generic can be purchased from a range of retailers or supermarkets, offering Parents and Carers a wider choice.

### **7.2 Where to purchase school uniform: second-hand uniform arrangements**

There is a clothes rail in the reception area at both schools with a selection of second-hand uniform available to buy at very low cost. If you are unable to find the item you are looking for please ask at reception as we have additional items stored in school.

Our school PTA (FGD) run successful second-hand sales throughout the year. The sales offer parents the opportunity to purchase good quality second-hand uniform at very reasonable prices and at a fraction of the cost of new uniform. A message will be sent out shortly before each sale confirming the date and time of the sale. Should you wish to help on the day of the sale or have any further questions please contact us via the School Office. Any donations of unwanted uniform would be greatly appreciated. Uniform donations can be dropped off at the School Office.

### **7.3 Where to purchase school uniform: Alternate arrangements**

If you qualify for Pupil Premium or Free School Meals, you will be eligible for funded uniform items. If financial support is required to assist in the purchasing of items, please speak in confidence with Mr Beckerson or another member of staff.

## **8. Expectations for our school community**

### **8.1 Children**

Children 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)

## **8.2 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

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are genuine reasons (for example religious considerations, medical needs or consideration of special needs), why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will consider adaptations. Parents are expected to contact Mr Beckerson (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.

## **9. Links with other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour and relationships Policy
- Equality & Inclusion Policy
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

## Appendix: Uniform

As per the school website:

<https://graffhamandduncton.w-sussex.sch.uk/uniform/>

*Please check the second-hand uniform rails in reception at both schools because it is likely that you will find the item you require. If you are unable to find what you need, please order from the webshop.*

### **Compulsory school uniform:**

- purple sweatshirt or cardigan with embroidered school logo
- plain white polo shirt
- grey skirt or pinafore dress or plain grey or black trousers
- plain socks or tights
- dark coloured sensible shoes (no heels, slip-ons or trainers)

*Shower-proof jackets and warmer, zipped fleece tops in school colours with embroidered school logo are optional.*

### **Optional summer uniform changes:**

- lilac gingham dresses
- grey or black shorts
- sandals that give full protection to the toes

### **Compulsory PE Kit**

Children should come to school in PE kit on their PE day (or if they are attending sports club at Graffham)

- purple t-shirt with embroidered school logo.
- black shorts and tracksuit / jogging bottoms for colder weather
- white socks
- trainers

### **Forest School, wild Wednesdays and all-weather clothing**

We encourage children to go out to play whatever the weather! We therefore ask everyone to have:

- a pair of wellies to leave at school
- a waterproof coat with a hood
- appropriate seasonal clothes – ie hat and gloves in winter, sun hat in summer.
- on Forest school/wild Wednesdays we ask all children to come to school wearing long sleeved tops (no hoods) and long trousers.

### **Rucksacks and book bags**

There are book bags and two sizes of rucksack available. These rucksacks are optional but we do require all children to have a school bookbag.