

# Uniform Policy for Blackwell First School



A Policy for School Uniform

### **Our vision**

**At Blackwell we aim to educate the whole child and to ensure children are happy, healthy and fulfill their potential in terms of the development of skills for life, social and moral values and academic success.**

### **Values**

- Respectful and responsible citizens*
- Competent and confident learners*
- Aspirational individuals*

### **Key competencies**

- Co-operation*
- Communication*
- Independence*
- Resilience*
- Problem solving*

## INTRODUCTION

It is Blackwell First School's Policy that the children from Reception onwards wear uniform when attending or representing school. In writing this policy, we have made reference to:

- Guide on School Uniforms (2021);
- Statutory guidance on the cost of School Uniforms (2021);
- Education Endowment Foundation evidence on School Uniforms (2021);
- Human Rights Act 1998;
- Equality Act 2010;
- School Safeguarding policy and
- School Health and Safety policy.

## AIMS

The Education Endowment Foundation reports that, 'the current evidence base on school uniform and academic outcomes is extremely weak...wearing a uniform is not, on its own, likely to improve learning, but can be successfully incorporated into a broader school improvement process (such as) the development of a school ethos and the improvement of behaviour and discipline.'

Broadly, the school's decision to adopt a school uniform is taken for the following reasons:

- Promote the ethos of the school;
- Provide a sense of belonging and identity and
- Set a tone for education.

We also intend uniform to be:

- Comfortable and practical for the purposes of a practical First School environment (both indoor and outdoor);
- Manageable when there are situations with extreme weather (hot or cold) or educational visits out of school and
- Inclusive of everyone in school, including all those with protected characteristics.

## APPEARANCE

### Uniform

The following uniform is specified on admission to Blackwell First School.

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- Sky blue polo shirt
- Burgundy cardigan\*, sweatshirt\* and fleece\*
- Blue and white checked dress (in Summer)
- Grey shorts
- Black school shoes

For P.E. lessons the code is as follows:

- Plain white polo shirt or T shirt\*
- Navy shorts
- Black pumps for indoor lessons
- Trainers for outdoor lessons
- Navy jogging bottoms. If necessary these can be used for Forest School also but will need washing and returning each week.

Burgundy pump bags\*, book bags\* and water bottles are also part of our essential school equipment.

\*Branded items are optional.

Children in Nursery may choose to wear a branded sweatshirt or cardigan but this is optional.

Children with specific religious requirements to modify uniform, will be able to discuss this with the headteacher.

### Jewellery

On Health and Safety grounds, jewellery is not allowed in school, with the exception of ear ring studs in pierced ears (no other piercings are allowed) or small objects of religious significance. These must either be

taped or removed for PE. Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children with medical conditions.

### Haircuts

Pupils with long hair should tie it back during school. Extreme haircuts including dyed hair are discouraged. Hairbands or accessories should be appropriate and not cause a distraction or safety issue.

### Footwear

Black, flat school shoes are part of the uniform code but during Summer, sandals with socks are permitted and during Winter snow, boots/wellies are allowed and children may change into slippers indoors.

### Make Up

Make up is not allowed in school.

### Items of religious clothing

If any parent wishes their child to wear amended uniform in light of religious reasons, please speak to the headteacher.

All clothing should be named to avoid loss.

### SOURCING UNIFORM

In line with Department for Education guidance, most of the required uniform is non branded and can be purchased from a range of High Street shops or online. Branded items are limited and optional. They are for sale through the School Office. Affordability is at the heart of consideration when planning the school's uniform.

### Second Hand Uniform

In order to maintain a more sustainable approach to uniform as well as providing a cost effective uniform option, school runs a Second Hand uniform shop. This is for branded and unbranded items, with the exception of bookbags, PE bags and shoes which we do not provide. This operates as a donation only option through the School Office.

### OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

In order to provide as cost effective uniform option as possible, we also:

- Assess overall cost implications to admission to the school;

- Avoid variations in uniform and frequent changes to uniform;
- Do not request additional uniform for extra curricular activities;
- Keep branded items to a minimum and
- Seek best value from suppliers.

## GOVERNORS

The Governing Body supports the headteacher in implementing the School Uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

## STAKEHOLDERS

The school liaises with parents and families through newsletters and families are encouraged to raise concerns with the headteacher before seeking recourse from the Complaints Policy.