ST MICHAEL'S
C of E PRIMARY
HIGHGATE

Uniform Policy

Date of issue	May 2026
Renewal date	May 2027

To nurture and inspire our children to develop a love of learning in a supportive Christian community and become the best they can be

Introduction

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

Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require pupils to wear 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 have 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' 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 items with distinctive characteristics
- Periodically reviewing our contract with uniform suppliers to ensure we obtain best value for money
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

Our school's uniform

The school has adopted a clear dress code for the pupil, which is set out in the school induction pack and on the school website. It is designed to promote high expectations of the pupils as well as a sense of belonging.

For safety, hair that is long enough to reach the shoulders must be tied back and all jewellery with the exception of watches and small stud earrings, are not allowed. Pupils need to take earrings out during PE lessons and if they are unable to do so tape should be placed over the earrings. Hairbands and tape are available from the office. Make-up and nail varnish are not allowed.

The School uniform consists of:

- A white polo shirt with embroidered school logo.
- A navy blue v neck jumper or cardigan with grey piping and embroidered school logo.
- Navy blue trousers, shorts, pinafore, culottes or skirt.
- Navy or white socks/tights.
- Blue gingham summer dress.
- Black shoes conducive to being active at all times.

The School PE Kit consists of:

- Technical, non - crease top with embroidered school logo
- Navy shorts, navy tracksuit bottoms
- Black or white plimsoles (indoors) trainers (outdoors)

The school recently switched uniform supplier and items embroidered with the school logo can now be purchased online at https://www.braggsschoolwear.co.uk/. Pupils must wear the embroidered polo shirt and jumper/cardigan. All other items can be purchased from most high street stores and supermarkets.

Second hand school uniform can also be purchased via the school's Parent Teacher Association, the SMSA, who run a Preloved facility for parents to purchase second hand unforms

In addition, children should have a book bag and PE bag. Book bags and PE bag with the schools logo can also be purchased online at https://www.braggsschoolwear.co.uk/.. Pupils can also choose to use generic, non branded navy book bags and PE bags.

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 elements of our uniform they feel most comfortable
- 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 Head of School who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

Expectations for our school community

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 Head of School if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 Head of School 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.

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.

In cases of financial hardship parents will be directed to available support eg the Hardship Fund

Governors

The governing board will review this policy on an annual basis 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

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.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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