

## St John's C of E VC Infants School Uniform Policy



<b>Review Cycle</b>	<b>Date of Current Policy</b>	<b>Author(s) of Current Policy</b>	<b>Review Date</b>
Every two year	November 2022	K.Devane	November 2024
	September 2025	K.Devane	September 2027

### Ratification

<b>Role</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Date</b>
Chair of Governors	Claire Weymouth	19.11.25
Head Teacher	Kerry Devane	19.11.25

## **1. Purpose and Aims**

The aim of this policy is 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. It explains how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act of 2010 and 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 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.
- ❖ 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 the Acting headteacher, Kerry Devane, 01458 832085. who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

## **3. Limiting the cost of 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 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 and provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- ❖ Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary and then limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- ❖ 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
- ❖ Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second hand uniform items and free school uniform when eligible
- ❖ Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimizing 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**

At St John's our school uniform consists of

- ❖ A school sweatshirt or cardigan which has the school logo on. This is the only item of clothing which needs to be bought from the school office or local uniform suppliers in Wells, Somerset.
- ❖ It is not necessary to purchase any branded items of clothing.
- ❖ All other items of uniform are generic and can be purchased from any local store or supermarket .
- ❖ On starting school pupils are provided with a school book bag
- ❖ PE clothing is required on the days that the children do PE. This is suitable footwear e.g. trainers, shorts a t-shirt. These items are unbranded.
- ❖ All school footwear should enable the children to play safely. There is no requirement for branded shoes or bags.

## **5. Where to purchase school uniform**

Information on where to purchase our school uniform is available on our school website. Presently uniform that carries the school logo is available from the school office and South West School Wear in Wells.

Telephone Number 01749 670000

Email Address: Wells@swschoolwear.co.uk

All other generic uniform can be found in the local supermarkets in Street, Glastonbury or surrounding towns such as Bridgewater or Yeovil. The school always strives to hold some second-hand uniform in school. This is available to purchase from the school PTA who can be contacted through the school office. This uniform is at a greatly reduced cost. Parents are welcome to discuss any difficulty they may have in making a payment for any school uniform with the Head Teacher. We want to ensure that uniform does not hinder a pupil's attendance at school, with this in mind it is not compulsory for children to wear school uniform.

## **6. Monitoring Arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed regularly by the Head Teacher and at least every two years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board and approved by the Chair.

## **7. Links to other Policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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