



## **WESTFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL AND NURSERY**

### **School Uniform Policy**

**Date Ratified: October 2024**

**Reviewed by: FGB**

**Date for Review: October 2025**

### **Aims and objectives**

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

- Promotes a sense of pride in our school
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Identifies the children with the school; supports our commitment to inclusion
- Is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind

### **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
- Aim for parity of cost of uniform 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 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 headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### **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. Any parents who are experiencing financial difficulties in equipping their child with uniform can contact the school, who will treat the matter with the utmost confidence. 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 any items with distinctive characteristics. At Westfield we ask that only the cardigan/sweatshirt and the blue polo shirt with a school logo is compulsory.
- Children joining the school in Reception/Nursery are given a bookbag free of charge.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items.
- coats, bags and shoes.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform doesn't socially or economically discriminate.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different years.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire preloved 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.

If parents are struggling financially, they are encouraged to contact the headteacher in confidence, to discuss support available.

### **Expectations for school uniform**

#### **Our school Uniform:**

- Blue cardigan or sweatshirt with logo
- White polo shirt with collar (available from most supermarkets) and/or a blue polo shirt with school logo (available from Essential School Wear)
- Grey skirt / tailored trousers / pinafore dress / royal blue & white check dress for summer (as appropriate)
- Blue T-shirt and plain navy or black shorts for PE
- School book bag
- Appropriate bag to keep PE kit in
- Trainers for outdoor PE lessons
- Black joggers
- Shoe wear – trainers/or school shoes

#### **Hair and jewellery**

Hair which is longer than shoulder length needs to be tied up. The only jewellery that is permitted at school is a wrist-watch or small stud earrings. Earrings must be covered or removed for PE. Hair should not be dyed, and designs shaved into haircut, nail varnish and temporary tattoos are not permitted.

#### **Where to purchase uniform**

Our logo school uniform can be purchased online from our uniform supplier [Choose your school - Essential Schoolwear](#) . You will need to register for an account on their website to view and purchase uniform. School bags can also be purchased via Essential School Wear or we have a limited stock that can be purchased via the school office.

To support our sustainability aims, we promote a good stock of preloved, good quality second hand uniform for sale/voluntary contribution from WISPA. To enquire about second had uniform, please email [uniformwispa@gmail.com](mailto:uniformwispa@gmail.com). For more information on our school uniform visit our website at <https://westfieldprimary.herts.sch.uk/parents/uniform/>

***All school uniform and additional items should be clearly labelled with your child's name***

### **Expectation 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 the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristic.

### **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

If parents are struggling financially, they are encouraged to contact the headteacher in confidence to discuss support.

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

### **Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will work with any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy to support them to resolve the situation but will follow up with the headteacher if there remains an issue with uniform. In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, the school will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

### **Governors**

The governing body 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
- The governing body will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.