

BARKER'S LANE COMMUNITY SCHOOL

School Uniform & Appearance Policy

All children are encouraged to wear and respect their school uniform as proud members of Barker's Lane Community School. We have an expectation of good standards of appearance and tidy dress, and personal presentation. The governors' policy is that costs are kept to a minimum.

It is our school policy that all children are encouraged to wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus, and offer good quality items of recycled uniform.

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school, supporting and promoting our ethos;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- supports positive behaviour and a sense of respect;
- is practical and smart, ensuring children are dressed appropriately for learning activities;
- identifies the children with the school;
- removes peer pressure to dress in 'designer' fashions;
- ensures due regard is given to securing equality, enabling children of all backgrounds to share a common identity;
- is regarded as good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Uniform

- Winter* - Grey / black trousers / pinafore / skirt,
royal blue sweatshirt / cardigan / jumper,
white shirt / blouse and school tie or white / pale blue polo shirt.
- Summer* - Blue and white check dress (*optional*)
Grey shorts, white / pale blue polo shirt (*optional*)

Dark coloured shoes for all children. Trainers are not suitable for wearing throughout the day.

Polo shirts, sweatshirts, and cardigans can be embroidered with the school logo.

Physical activity / P.E. is an important part of school life, assisting with general health and the wellbeing of young people.

For indoor activities children are encouraged to wear white shorts and blue T-shirts. Bare feet for gym and dance.

For outdoor games / activities, children wear white shorts and blue T-shirts, plimsolls or trainers (change of socks). A tracksuit or jogging suit with trainers is required in colder weather.

Parents are given sufficient notice of any outdoor activity or visit which requires specific items of clothing, for example Y4-6 children require long blue socks and shin pads for football and hockey.

Parents are respectfully asked and regularly reminded to label all items of clothing / footwear

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are small stud ear-rings in pierced ears and watches. We ask the children to remove these during PE and games.

Footwear

We want all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. We also consider flimsy sandals, 'jelly' or foam shoes inappropriate footwear for school.

We encourage all children to wear black / dark coloured shoes. Trainers are not suitable to be worn all day to school. Children may bring trainers for breaktime, which can be housed on our junior trainer trolley.

Hairstyles

Extreme hair fashions are discouraged and not acceptable for school. These will be discussed with parents if the need arises. Hair decorations such as fabric plaits can be dangerous and should not be worn. Long hair should be tied back neatly. We ask for the full support of parents in these matters.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who choose to send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

Equality

The school welcomes children regardless of sex, race, religion, belief or disability. If there are reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the governing body will act reasonably in accordance with such requests. The school will also discuss possible temporary / permanent medical reasons for such requests. The headteacher will discuss such requests with parents.

The role of the headteacher

The headteacher has overall responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school, including upholding the school uniform policy.

The headteacher will decide what action to take when pupils infringe the school uniform and appearance policy. The headteacher will always try to establish why a pupil is not complying with school policy and offer to loan items of uniform. Where, and when appropriate the headteacher may contact parents / carers to take a pupil home to change into uniform. This would not be deemed as an exclusion.

If breaches of the school's policy are persistent and in open defiance of the school's uniform and appearance policy, and where all other avenues for resolving this dispute have been exhausted, then the school may consider exclusion as a last resort.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Complaints

Complaints about school uniform and appearance codes / policies are dealt with in accordance with the governing body complaints procedure.

Monitoring and review

This policy was reviewed by Mrs C Harrison-Edwards in July 2017 in consultation with staff and the governing body. It will be reviewed when necessary.