

Learning Together for Life

Jesus said, 'Love one another as I have loved you' John 15:12, New Testament

Stepney Greencoat

Church of England
Primary School



Uniform Policy

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1. Aims

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 all 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

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: age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform, depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Head of School via the school office (office2@stepneygreencoat.towerhamlets.sch.uk, 02079873202), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

3. Limiting 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost from a number of retailers to offer choice to parents
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 or fewer items by Primary Schools
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and making purchase of such items a parental choice
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items, such as jumpers of the same colour without the logo
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags, hats and cold weather clothing that pupils could also wear on non-school days
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups and classes
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

St Peter's London Docks C of E Primary School expects pupils to wear school uniform. Our uniform has been designed to be practical, smart and affordable. Parents and carers are able to purchase generic uniform items from a retailer of their choice.

Branded school uniform

There are no compulsory branded items of school uniform. Items displaying the St Peter's school logo are available for parents who wish to purchase them, but these are optional. A plain, unbranded alternative in the appropriate school colour may always be worn instead.

Branded uniform is available from the suppliers listed on the school website. The school does not require parents to purchase uniform from a particular supplier.

Everyday school uniform

Pupils should wear:

Girls

Grey skirt, pinafore or grey tailored trousers

White, shirt or polo shirt

Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan

Plain white socks or green or grey tights

Black shoes

Boys

Grey trousers

White shirt or polo shirt

Bottle green sweatshirt or jumper

Plain black, grey or white socks

Black shoes

A green tie is optional.

During warmer weather, pupils may wear a green and white gingham dress or grey tailored shorts. These are optional and do not need to be branded.

Summer sandals may be worn and should be black, white or brown.

Uniform should be suitable for school, comfortable, safe and appropriate for the activities pupils undertake during the school day. Items should be of an appropriate fit and provide suitable coverage for a primary school environment.

PE kit

For PE, pupils should wear:

A plain white T-shirt

Plain green, black or grey shorts or jogging bottoms; pupils may alternatively wear a PE skirt

Black plimsolls or plain trainers in black, white or grey

PE kit does not need to carry the school logo.

Footwear should be suitable for physical activity. Pupils who are not yet able to tie their own shoelaces should wear suitable Velcro or other securely fastening footwear.

Swimming

When pupils take part in swimming lessons, they will need:

Swimming trunks or a swimming costume

A towel

A swimming hat

These items do not need to be branded or purchased from a particular supplier.

Shoes, coats and bags

Pupils should wear practical black school shoes which are safe and suitable for normal school activities.

Coats and bags do not need to be branded or purchased from a school uniform supplier. They should be practical, safe and suitable for school use.

The school does not specify a particular colour or brand of coat or school bag.

Jewellery and hair

Jewellery should be kept to a minimum for reasons of health and safety. We allow children to wear one pair of stud earrings which must be removed on PE days and a wrist watch (no smart watches).

Hair should be suitable for school and should not interfere with a pupil's ability to participate safely in lessons or activities. Long hair may need to be tied back for activities such as PE, practical lessons or where required for health and safety.

The school will apply its expectations on jewellery, hair, hairstyles and head coverings in a way that takes account of pupils' religion or belief, race, disability, sex and other relevant protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. Reasonable adjustments will be made for disabled pupils where appropriate.

Labelling

Parents and carers are asked to clearly label all items of clothing, PE kit and other belongings with their child's name.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

Most items of St Peter's school uniform are generic items and can be purchased from any retailer, including supermarkets, high-street shops and online retailers. Parents and carers are not required to purchase these items from a particular supplier, provided that they meet the colour and style requirements set out in this policy.

School uniform displaying the St Peter's school logo is optional. Parents and carers who wish to purchase items bearing the school logo can currently obtain them from the following uniform suppliers:

- Khalsa School Wear, 388 Bethnal Green Road, London, E2 0AH – 020 7729 3286
- My Clothing – available online.

The school is committed to making good-quality second-hand uniform easily and discreetly available to families.

The school holds a supply of pre-loved uniform which is available to parents and carers free of charge, subject to availability. Parents and carers who would like to request second-hand uniform can contact the school office in person, by telephone or by email. Requests will be dealt with sensitively and discreetly, and families do not need to provide a reason for requesting second-hand uniform.

Parents and carers of prospective pupils and pupils joining the school will be informed about the availability of second-hand uniform as part of the school's admissions and induction information, giving families sufficient time to request items before their child starts school.

Information about how to obtain second-hand uniform will be published on the school website and communicated to families periodically during the school year.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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)

5.2 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/carers are also expected to contact the Head of School via the school office (office2@stepneygreencoat.towerhamlets.sch.uk, 02079873202) 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/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 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 where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

5.4 Governors

The federation board 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/carers, 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.

6. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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