

## UNIFORM POLICY



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## Archibald First School

### 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 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 at Archibald First School.

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- prompts a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

### 2. Our 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, Archibald First 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 (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back for learning or safety reasons).
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other discrete religious or cultural symbols.

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- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the head teacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

### 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Archibald First 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 items that have to have the school logo) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and therefore, requests for distinctive items will be kept to a minimum.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost;
- Provides value for money for parents/carers.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering which items with distinctive characteristics are necessary;
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats;
- Keeping the number of 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;
- 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.

We do keep a selection of second-hand uniform which has been donated to school. Please speak to a staff member if this would be helpful. There is also a local community uniform scheme in the North East. The scheme offers free school uniforms and all other items link to school life, such as coats, shoes, bags etc, which have all been donated. For more information, please email [info.communityschoolcs@gmail.com](mailto:info.communityschoolcs@gmail.com) or look at their Twitter account - @communityscs / Facebook page - Community schools Clothing Scheme

### 4. Expectations for school uniform

#### 4.1 Our school's uniform

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event during, or outside of, normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our [website](#).

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Children should wear the following **branded** items to school:

- Red school jumper/cardigan (Royal blue for Nursery children)
- Red PE t-shirt

The following branded items are available, yet optional:

- Red PE Hoodie
- White school t-shirts/shirts (light blue for Nursery children)
- Red coat/fleece
- Red PE/book bag and backpack

Having these items branded means that all the children are shown to be representing the school at all times, for example, during educational visits or PE competitions. This also makes pupils easily identifiable to staff during trips or visits.

The following items may be generic:

- White school t-shirts/shirts (light blue for Nursery children)
- Trousers (dark navy)
- Skirts (dark navy)
- School shorts (dark navy)
- Summer dresses (red check)
- PE shorts (plain royal blue)
- PE trousers (plain dark navy)
- School shoes (plain and dark in colour)
- PE shoes
- Coat/fleece
- Backpack/book bag

### 4.2 PE & Swimming

As mentioned, PE t-shirts should be branded with the Archibald logo. Children should wear the red, branded t-shirt with royal blue shorts or plain navy jogging bottoms. PE shoes or trainers should be appropriate for both indoor and outdoor sessions. If you choose not to purchase a branded PE hoodie, we request that children wear their branded school jumper/cardigan over their branded PE t-shirt.

For swimming, children should wear a one-piece swimsuit or swimming shorts. Pupils may wish to wear a swimming cap. Long hair should be tied back and all jewellery removed for both PE and swimming (please see below for further guidance).

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### 4.3 Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are the wearing of earring studs in pierced ears and a watch. These must be removed for PE and swimming sessions. Staff will not remove earrings and are not responsible for them. The governing body will accept no responsibility for injury caused by a child wearing any jewellery. The school will not be held responsible for the loss of any jewellery on school premises.

### 4.4 Hairstyles

The school asks that parents consider hair styles carefully considering the age of the child. All children are requested to tie hair up where it is long enough to do so for PE.

Hair accessories (bobbles, band and clips) must be plain and simple.

### 4.5 Expectations for shoes, bags and coats

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. Shoes should be appropriate to the age of the child and provide adequate protection for your child's feet. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Nor do we allow children to wear trainers or football shoes as part of the main school uniform; these are appropriate for sport or leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. School shoes must be dark in colour with no flashes or coloured sections. We have no specific requirements for coats or bags, however branded items are available.

### 4.6 Items only required in specific circumstances/certain times of the year:

Generic items that your child may need include, but are not limited to:

- Swimming suits/shorts/caps
- Sunhats
- Woolly hats, scarves and gloves
- Wellies (Forest School/bad weather)
- Waterproofs (Forest School/bad weather)

### 4.7 Where to purchase our uniform

- Main school and PE **branded** uniform can be purchased from [Tots to Teams](#), Kingston park or from [Ciel School Uniform](#), Gosforth.
- Generic items may be bought from any high street supermarket or retailer.
- Throughout the year, the school will work with the PTFA to arrange pre loved/second hand uniform sales.
- Pupils receive a branded backpack when starting Reception or when joining the school; these can also be purchased through the PTFA.

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### 5. Expectations for our school community

#### 5.1 Parents and Carers

We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school for their support of 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. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, that it is clean, clearly labelled with the child's name, and in good repair.

This policy has considered the Equality Act 2010. If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the head teacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will sympathetically consider such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the head teacher.

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner, in line with our complaints policy. Disputes about school uniform will be resolved locally and dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

#### 5.2 Staff

Staff will closely monitor correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to fulfil the policy, but may follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve. Staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

#### 5.3 Governors

The governing body supports the head teacher in implementing the School Uniform Policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, considers the national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and ensuring that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Considers the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

### 6. Monitoring and Review

This policy was reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body. The policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Leadership Support Committee.

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**Date of last review: Summer 2022**

**Date of amendments: October 2022**

**Date of next review: Spring 2025**

This policy should be read in conjunction with our:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Statement
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy