

St John's Highbury Vale CE Primary School



'I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me' Philippians 4:13

Uniform Policy

Ratified: Summer 2024
Review Date: Summer 2027

At the heart of our school vision is a desire for an authentic and life-giving relationship with ourselves, one another, our world, and with God. We believe that it is through Christ who gives us the strength, all can achieve within a learning environment where every child is valued as a unique individual created in the image of God, and where teaching and learning is of consistently high standard.

STJHV Statement of Intent

St John's Highbury Vale in Islington is committed to providing a nurturing and inspiring environment where every child is empowered to reach their full potential. Grounded in our Christian ethos and guided by our values, we strive to create a vibrant and dynamic educational experience that prepares our pupils to lead fulfilling lives and contribute positively to society.

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

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:

- 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)
- 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 Head of School, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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 on the cost of school uniform. With this in mind we do not require any item of school uniform to bear the school badge and name.

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
- Providing suitable alternatives to any items with distinctive characteristics
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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
- Removing 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
- 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

Our uniform policy reflects our school's vision and values, and reinforces our school's culture of high expectations and academic achievement. All pupils must dress according to the uniform policy. Our school uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community and it promotes a strong, cohesive identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security.

Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times. We have a required school uniform for several reasons:

- Uniforms unite the school. Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their uniform they will abide by the rules of the community.
- Uniforms reduce distractions. We are focused on achieving success. When pupils are allowed to wear their own clothing, there is the potential to talk about fashions and styles rather than learning.
- Uniforms make us all equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to school looking the same way. No one has to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- Uniforms look professional. Pupils look neat and ready to learn.

We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

The school's Governing Body decide the policy for school uniform which is reviewed periodically, and request that the policy is adhered to by all families in a consistent way.

Non-compliance with the Uniform Policy

It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that the school uniform policy is adhered to.

Parents and carers of pupils that do not wear the correct uniform will be contacted and asked to bring the correct uniform into school. If this is not possible then pupils will be provided with the correct item of uniform, they are missing for the day.

There may be good reasons why a pupil is not wearing school uniform. In this case, parents and carers should share the reasons with the class teacher either in person, via the school office or via Class Dojo. The school will always be considerate and discrete in trying to establish why a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform. Pupils will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. In line with our work with FOSJ, we regularly carry out uniform sales in school, where items are sold for 50p each. This type of sale takes place at least twice a term. This includes second hand items and new and unused items.

There will be occasions when the school decides that school uniform is not appropriate e.g. when taking part in a physical activity day, wearing different clothes as a part of a fund raising event or topic entry point activity day. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of the revised dress code on these days.

Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the set uniform respects other policies such as equality, race relations and sex discrimination. St John's Highbury Vale Primary School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential. Minor

adjustments to the standard school uniform are accepted for religious reasons but these should be discussed the Head of School in the first instance.

Dark grey pinafore
Dark grey skirt or trousers
Yellow Polo shirt with logo
Green school cardigan or Jumper with logo
Grey socks or grey tights
Black Shoes
Summertime only
Green & White gingham summer dress (optional)



PE Kit (boys and girls)
Navy blue shorts
Plain white round-neck T-shirt
Plain navy sweatshirt & jogging pants



Book Bags and PE Bags with the school logo can be purchased from the school's uniform supplier. There is also an option to have your child's initials printed onto the bag. We would strongly recommend you do not have the child's name printed onto the bag for safeguarding reasons. School logo bags however, are not essential items.



School trousers, shorts, skirts, pinafore dresses and plimsoles can be purchased from high street stores or school shops.

Outdoor clothing

Pupils should bring a coat to school each day, apart from during the hotter weather. Hats, scarves and boots should not to be worn inside the school buildings. Sun hats should be worn outside during the hotter summer months.

Footwear

Pupils must wear closed-toed, hard-soled, **all black** plain shoes with a flat sole. Footwear with flashing lights are strongly discouraged. Boots are not allowed. Open-toed sandals should not be worn, even in the Summer Term.

In the case of extreme weather children can wear boots to school but must change into a pair of shoes on arrival to school.

Pupils can wear trainers or back plimsolls for outdoor PE lessons. Barefoot work is undertaken for indoor gymnastic and dance lessons.

For Reception pupils, parents are kindly asked to buy shoes without laces and plimsolls are worn for PE.

Acceptable		Unacceptable	
			
			
			
			

Hairstyles

Pupils' hair should be neatly groomed and tidy at all times. Long hair on both girls and boys should be tied back neatly. Pupils may not wear designs or words cut into their hair or permanent or temporary coloured hair.

Jewellery/Accessories

Pupils may wear a watch (with no sound effects, cameras or games) and may wear one pair of small, stud earrings which must be worn in the lower ear lobe. All studs must be removed for PE by the pupil or taken out at home. Studs earrings that cannot be removed by the pupil for PE lessons will be covered with a plaster or tape. *Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.*

Naming Clothing and Property

VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of pupils' property and valuables.

Printed name labels can be ordered from the school's uniform supplier.

Lost Property

All mislaid items are placed in one of two lost property bins. Please ask the school office if you wish to look through one of these. We endeavour to return all named property. All unclaimed lost property is put out for parents periodically throughout the term. At the end of every term, all unclaimed items of uniform will be disposed of.

School Uniform Supplier

Our school uniform suppliers:

Forest Casual and Schoolwear 144 Loughton High Road London IG10 4BE Tel: 02085082848 https://forestcasualwear.co.uk/pages/st-johns-highbury-vale	Koolskools 387 Shirley Rd Shirley, Southampton SO15 3TS Tel: 023 8202 6260 https://www.koolskools.co.uk/product-category/st-johns-highbury-vale-primary-school/
---	---

Parents may:

- Visit the shop
- Order online and have the items delivered to your door