School Uniform Policy

Victoria Junior School



| Approved by: | The Governing Board | Date: March 2023 |
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| Last reviewed on: | March 2023 | |
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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 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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, 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 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)
- > 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 related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- > Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- > 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 to get in touch with Mrs Lewis, Inclusion Manager, 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 <u>quidance</u> from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

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 where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/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 leveller
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year / class groups
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- > Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

We are proud of our school and encourage the children to wear our school uniform:

- A maroon sweatshirt or cardigan with the school's logo
- Grey or black trousers or shorts
- Grey or black skirt or checked summer dress
- Pale blue or white polo shirt or blouse
- Black school shoes, trainers or sandals

Jeans, leggings and platform, high-heeled or backless shoes should not be worn to school.

There is no need to wear make-up to school, and for safety reason, false nails should not be worn. Children can use a school bag of their choice.

PE Kit

On PE days, we ask pupils to come into school wearing their PE kits.

They will need:

- tee-shirt (white)
- either burgundy or black shorts, or a black tracksuit not leggings
- white or black trainers

No logos or highly visible branding on any clothing please.

Jewellery and hairstyles

Please do not send your child to school wearing jewellery unless it is for religious reasons. If your child has pierced ears then they should only wear small studs. For safety reasons, children must not wear jewellery during PE lessons, unless for religious reasons when it should be covered. No jewellery at all is permitted during swimming and children are required to wear a swimming hat. Long hair should be tied back during PE lessons.

All school uniform and PE kit should be clearly named.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Sweatshirts and cardigans with the school badge on may be purchased from school or from "School Bells" Uniform Shop in Hounslow.

Good quality second hand uniform is also available through the Office, or through our termly second-hand uniform sales.

All other items can be purchased from local stores, supermarkets or online.

| Uniform Item | Size | Price |
|-------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| Sweatshirt with logo | Age 2/3 to age 13 | £10.50 |
| Sweatshirt with logo | Adult small - large | £12.50 + VAT |
| Cardigan with logo | Age 3/4 to age 13 | £11.50 |
| Cardigan with logo | Adult small - large | £13.50 + VAT |
| Document case with logo | One size | £8.50 + VAT |
| PE bag with logo | One size | £5.00 + VAT |

4.2 Uniform grant - Hounslow Borough

The school clothing grant is payable to all children in **primary school from reception to year six**. It is limited to two applications per household only.

Your child may qualify for a clothing grant, if you receive:

Income support

- Income based Job seekers allowance
- Income based Employment support allowance
- Universal credit, provided your household annual taxable income does not exceed £7,400
- Child tax credit/working tax credit (provided your household income does not exceed £16.190).
- Guaranteed element of Pension credit or
- NASS Supported by the National Asylum support service.

To apply for a link, click on this link to start an application:

https://www.hounslow.gov.uk/info/20025/schools_and_colleges/1084/school_clothing_grants_-_secondary_and_primary

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs. Jo Lewis if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 are also expected to contact Mrs. Jo Lewis 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.

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 David Lee, Headteacher, if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by working together with parents to ensure that the correct uniform is worn.

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.

5.4 Governors

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
- Takes into account the views of parents 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 retendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed yearly by Mrs. Jo Lewis. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- > Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statement
- > Anti-Bullying policy
- > Complaints policy

Annual Letter to Parents and Carers



Tel: 020 8890 9624

Email: office@victoria.hounslow.sch.uk

September 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

At Victoria Junior School, we strongly value the place of P.E. in the curriculum. We recognise its importance to the physical and emotional development of children. Regular activity also contributes to higher levels of concentration, focus and motivation. Pupils develop team skills and leadership qualities, building the confidence and energy to succeed in all areas of their life.

Every child will take part in a P.E. lesson every week and therefore it is important that your child / children come to school on their PE days in their correct clothes.

P.E Kit:

- T-Shirt (plain white)
- Shorts (black)
- Jogging bottoms (black)
- Trainers or plimsolls
- The School jumper must be worn over the T-Shirt
- No hoodies or designer wear

PE Days:

Year 3 Monday Year 4 Tuesday Year 5 Friday Year 6 Thursday

Kind regards,

D. Lee

David Lee Headteacher