



UNIFORM POLICY



This Policy is a statement of the aims, principles and strategies for uniform at Spittal Community First School.

It was developed during 2009 through a process of consultation amongst staff and Governors and updated in 2014, 2016, 2018, 2020, 2023 and 2024.

It will be reviewed in 2026.

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when in 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. Uniform items do not need to be purchased from a specific retailer but can be purchased more widely, including from second hand sources.

Aims and Objectives:

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

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- Is practical and smart;
- Identifies the children within the school;
- Is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers;
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind;

School Uniform Code:

- Black or grey skirt/pinafore or plain black/grey trousers/shorts
- Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan (with or without the school badge).
- Pale blue/white blouse/aertex shirt
- Blue & white dress (summer)
- Sensible black shoes/sandals
- White/grey socks or tights

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PE and Games:

- White t-shirts
- Black shorts
- Black jogging bottoms (plain, no logo's)
- Black sand shoes/trainers

Older children may require football boots/trainers

It is important in the interests of personal hygiene children have a change of clothing for PE. Please also ensure your child takes their PE kit home regularly to be washed.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix or chain. We ask the children to remove these objects during PE and games.

Extreme Haircuts

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. We are very proud of how our children look in their uniform and wish them to look their best. We expect them to be dressed in uniform and tidy. Our base line is that hairstyles must be sensible and we discourage styles with shapes and lines cut into them, skin heads and mohicans.

Long hair should be tied back for safety reasons (and to prevent the spread of head lice). Large hair accessories should not be worn.

We feel that make up of any kind is inappropriate for school, this includes nail varnish.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers in school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear the types of shoe described in the uniform list.

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The Role of Parents and Carers

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

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, e.g. religious objections, why parents and carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents and carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the head teacher. The school will not treat children with disabilities unfavourably.

The Role of Governors

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

Monitoring and Review:

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the governing body will:

- Seek the views of parents and carers, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- Consider with the head teacher any requests from parents of carers for individual children to have special dispensations:

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every three years, or earlier if necessary.

Signed: *W.J.Kiff*

Date: 22/01/2024