

School Uniform Policy

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Statement of Intent

The Devonshire Hill Nursery & Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.



1. Legal and Connected Framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to:

- ★ Relevant legislation within England
- ★ Guidance documents as issued by governmental bodies in England such as the Department for Education (DfE) or successor bodies
- ★ School policies that connected with this policy.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

2.1. The governing body is strategically responsible for:

- ★ Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values
- ★ Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status
- ★ Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform
- ★ Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable
- ★ Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy
- ★ Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance
- ★ Delegating the processes for approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

2.2. The Headteacher has responsibility for:

- ★ Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis
- ★ Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy
- ★ Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board
- ★ Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top
- ★ Providing a termly financial summary to the Full Governing Body.

2.3. Staff members are responsible for:

- ★ Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- ★ Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy
- ★ Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

2.4. Parents/carers are responsible for:

- ★ Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy
- ★ Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including reasons why



- ★ Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

2.5. Pupils are responsible for:

- ★ Always wearing the correct uniform, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption
- ★ Looking after their uniform as appropriate
- ★ Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost Principles

3.1. The school is committed to:

- ★ Ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents/carers
- ★ In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code' ensuring that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child
- ★ Periodically assessing the overall cost implications of the uniform policy, prior to making any changes

3.2. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will consider the opinions and situations of:

- ★ Economically disadvantaged parents/families
- ★ Families with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school
- ★ Parents/carers of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently
- ★ Parents/carers of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs
- ★ Looked After Children (LAC) and Previously Looked After Children (PLAC).

3.3. The school:

- ★ Will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents/carers will need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items. This will include consideration of the fact that parents/carers will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day
- ★ Will keep variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g. year group specific items or colours, to a minimum where possible to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents/carers can pass some items down to younger siblings
- ★ Will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. We define a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Where the school decides to require an item of branded clothing, it will conduct an assessment to ensure prices are kept as low as possible, e.g. by offering sew- or iron-on logo badges for jumpers that can be bought at retailers instead of requiring special branded jumpers
- ★ Is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that uniforms are affordable for all



current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers or retailers

- ★ Will work with suppliers (via the School uniform supplier procurement guidance) to obtain the best value for money where possible with savings reflected in the cost of the branded items
- ★ Will limit changes to the uniform and seek the views of parents/carers and pupils when considering any changes to school uniforms.

4. Equality Principles

- 4.1. The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.
- 4.2. The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in section 3.
- 4.3. The school will ensure that parents/carers and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents/carers of pupils, who:
 - ★ Have SEND and/or sensory needs
 - ★ Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements
- 4.4. The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records.
- 4.5. The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes, however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.
- 4.6. Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- 4.7. The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.



5. Complaints and Challenges

- ★ The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- ★ To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.
- ★ When a complaint is received, the school will work with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- ★ Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

6. School Uniform Supplier

- 6.1. Our current school uniform supplier accepts school uniform assistance vouchers and is:

MAPAC Group Ltd

Mowat Estate, Sandown Road, Watford, Herts, WD24 7UZ.

+44 (0)1923 255 525 or +44 (0)1923 250 737

- 6.2. The school will:

- ★ Work with suppliers during the procurement process to review visualisations and fabric prior to a written contract being agreed and put in place for branded items
- ★ Review and/or retender the uniform contract at least every five years, whether changes to the uniform are made or not. This will be in keeping with general tendering and procurement best practice
- ★ Work to ensure that the items are procured as cost effectively as possible without compromising on the quality, e.g. by requesting standard-style items from the supplier rather than more intricate and unique designs
- ★ Demonstrate to the governing board how uniform is procured at the best value for money

7. Uniform Assistance

- 7.1. Eligible parents/carers may be eligible for an assistance grant of £26 per child per academic year towards the cost of school clothing and the funds will be made available via an online voucher. The funding will be allocated annually from the schools' premium funds.
- 7.2. To claim school uniform assistance, parents/carers should be eligible for Free School Meals. Eligibility is determined by checking original documents from the relevant authority, detailing receipt of the benefit and the address of the pupil. Families who meet the criteria should complete the **School Uniform Assistance Application Form** and return it to the school office.
- 7.3. The school holds second-hand school uniforms for parents/carers to access. Access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the headteacher.



Parents/carers are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

- 7.4. In addition please contact your Local Authority who may have a fund available for you to access.

8. Non-compliance

- 8.1. Staff members are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- 8.2. Parents/carers will be notified if their child needs to rectify uniform breaches. If this involves the parent/carer taking the child home to do so the absence is recorded as 'authorised'
- 8.3. If a pupil repeatedly breaches uniform rules, or takes longer than necessary to rectify the absence, the absence is counted as 'unauthorised'.

9. School Uniform and Colours

- 9.1. School colours (see 9.2 for logo items)

Our school colours are as follows:

- ★ V-neck jumper or cardigan – royal blue
- ★ Polo tops – yellow/gold
- ★ Trousers (short or long) or skirts/pinafore (over the knee) – grey
- ★ Socks- grey/black or white or Tights – grey/black
- ★ Summer dress- yellow/gold check
- ★ Shoes – black and no flashing lights or rollers
- ★ Hijab – plain or solid colour, royal blue/ gold/ black or white.

- 9.2. Clothing and accessories from school supplier: The school uniform price list is available on the schools website [Mapac - Schoolwear, Workwear, Sportswear, Promotional Products or Art Supplies. Quality, innovation and value since 1955](#)

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire	Cost per item from school supplier
Regular school uniform				
V-Neck jumper Colour – Royal Blue	Required	School logo on right-hand side (iron-on school logo buttons available)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Branded items available from school supplier ● Second hand from the school office. ● Alternatives can be bought from retailers and school badge/logo must be applied 	From £9.40
Cardigan Colour – Royal Blue				From £11.60

Polo shirt Colour - Gold	Required	No branding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Branded items available from school supplier • Second -hand from the school office. • Alternatives can be bought from retailers and school badge/logo must be applied 	From £8.20
Trousers, skirt or pinafore	Required	No branding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available from school supplier • Second -hand from the school office. • Alternatives can be bought from retailers 	From £6.90
Summer dress Colour- Yellow check.	Optional	No branding	Available from retailers.	From £6.00
Sensible, plain black shoes	Required	No branding	Available from retailers.	N/A
PE kit				
T-shirt Colour – Sunflower, Gold	Optional	Either School logo on right-hand side or plain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available from school supplier • Alternatives can be bought from retailers 	From £5.80
Shorts Colour – Dark Royal	Optional	No branding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available from school supplier • Alternatives can be bought from retailers 	From £4.30
continued...				
Accessories				
Book bag Colour – Royal Blue	Optional	School logo	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Available from school supplier • Alternatives can be bought from retailers 	£9.48
<p><i>Note: Head Boy and Girl. The School will provide a blazer, shirt and tie for the appointed Head Boy and Girl.</i></p>				

9.3. Footwear

- ★ Trainers are not considered suitable footwear.
- ★ High heels are not permitted
- ★ Suitable sports footwear for PE Lessons and sporting event

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child wears their PE kit to school when needed.



9.4. Jewellery

Permitted jewellery that may be worn:

- ★ One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.
- ★ A smart and sensible wristwatch.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded or replaced. All jewellery must be removed and safely stored during practical lessons, including PE lessons, Outdoor learning and science experiments.

9.5. School bag

- ★ Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their reading/library books. It should hold A4-sized books comfortably without causing any damage.
- ★ School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted. The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

9.6. Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE or Outdoor learning.

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- ★ Brightly-coloured, dyed hair
- ★ Headwear with bold patterns or colours
- ★ Excessive hair accessories.

9.7. Makeup

The school rules on makeup are as follows:

- ★ Make up of any kind is not permitted
- ★ Nail varnish is not permitted
- ★ False nails and nail extensions are not permitted
- ★ Temporary tattoos are not permitted.

10. Adverse Weather

10.1. All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.

10.2. For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- ★ Loose-fitting and lightweight clothing with sleeves and collars or covered necklines
- ★ Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers
- ★ Tops that cover the shoulder area
- ★ Sunglasses with UV protection when outside, where possible
- ★ When outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.



10.3. For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- ★ Gloves, coats and hats when they are outside (scarves can be worn to school but are to be removed during the day including playtimes)
- ★ Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy
- ★ Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

11. Outdoor Learning

11.1. On your child's Outdoor Learning day, parents/carers can send their child(ren) to school in non-school uniform. This should be warm, comfortable clothing and footwear as they will build up to being outdoors for up to two and half hours each week. Parents/carers should provide the following for each child:

- ★ wellington boots (in addition to comfortable footwear worn)
- ★ waterproof over trousers
- ★ waterproof jacket with a hood
- ★ spare clothing kit including socks.

12. Labelling

12.1. Parents/carers must clearly label all pupils' clothing and footwear with their name.

12.2. Any lost clothing will be taken to the lost property boxes in the school entrance/Reception area. All lost property is retained for half a term and is disposed of / recycled if it is not collected within this time.



School Uniform Assistance Application Form

Children who attend The Devonshire Hill Nursery and Primary School are eligible for school uniform assistance if they receive Free School Meals. This scheme is open to children in Years 1-6. The allowance is for buying suitable school wear and is paid once during the academic year. If your child is due to go to secondary school, please contact your Local Authority for assistance.

Part 1: Details of parent/carer

Your full name including title:	
National insurance number:	
Address including postcode:	
Mobile no.:	
Landline no.:	
Email address:	

By supplying us with a phone number or email, you agree to being contacted to let you know if you are eligible.

Part 2: Details of each dependent child you are applying for:

Surname	First/other names	Date of birth

Please read this declaration before you sign it

- ★ I declare I am the parent of the child(ren) that I am applying for
- ★ I declare that all the information I have given is correct and complete to the best of my knowledge.
- ★ I have enclosed original documentation to prove that I am in receipt of one of the benefits listed at the top of this form.
- ★ I am aware that I have a duty to notify the school in writing immediately of any changes in my circumstances which might affect my entitlement to school clothing assistance.
- ★ I understand that information taken from this form will be stored electronically on the school's computers. The school is permitted to do this under the UK GDPR and Data Protection Act 2018. A copy of the school's registration is held for inspection.

Your signature: _____ Date: _____

Please return this completed form to the school office.

What happens next?

If you apply for school uniform assistance and qualify, a voucher will be sent to you for each of your children. If you do not qualify for the payment, we will let you know by letter and phone and explain why.

