

ATTAIN ACADEMY PARTNERSHIP



School Uniform Policy

For

Bocking Primary School



April 2024

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 It is our school policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We believe that school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of our school.
- 1.2 We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our parents pack and on the school website.
- 1.3 Our school uniform policy is fair and affordable to all parents/carers and does not act as a barrier to parents when choosing a school

2. Aims and Objectives

- 2.1 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 with 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;
 - has been designed with health and safety in mind.

3. Uniform and Dress Code

- 3.1 All children are required to wear the school's uniform, as described below:

Main Uniform

- White blouse, shirt or polo shirt
- Grey skirt, or pinafore dress
- Grey trousers or shorts
- Red and white checked dress (any design) [Summer only]
- Red cardigan or jumper (with or without the school logo)
- **Dark socks (boys), white /grey socks (girls) [DO THEY WEAR DIFFERENT SOCKS? If so both can be kept but not in keeping with gender neutral]** or red/grey tights
- Red fleece (with or without the school logo) (optional for outdoor wear)
- Black shoes (not trainers and low heel)

P.E. Wear

- White t-shirts (with or without school logo)
- Black or dark blue plain shorts
- Black or blue plain tracksuit top and bottoms
- Plimsoles or trainers

- 3.2 All children are required to change for P.E. Children are to wear their P.E. kit to school on the days when they have P.E. No child will be excluded however from participating in P.E. lessons due to lack of a P.E. kit. Spare items are retained in school for this purpose.

4. School Uniform Suppliers

- 4.1 Parents / carers may choose to purchase items of school uniform with or without the school logo. However, we do encourage children to have at least one jumper/cardigan and one PE top with the school logo in order that they can be easily identified as a member of our school at external events such as school trips.
- 4.2 All uniform items can be purchased from a good clothing store, and for non-logo items, the school does not recognise or endorse a particular supplier. For parents/carers who do wish to purchase items with the school logo the branded supplier is [My Clothing](#).
- 4.3 The school supports the use of second-hand items. Good condition school uniform items that are no longer required can be donated to the school. These items will be available to purchase for a small amount from the school PTSA throughout the year.

5. Jewellery

- 5.1 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, small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or medical items which may appear to be items of jewellery.
- 5.2 Children must be able to remove these objects themselves for P.E. lessons.

6. Footwear

- 6.1 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 to 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.
- 6.2 Muddy boots or shoes must be removed before entering the school premises. During inclement weather, if pupils wear boots or wellington boots, they are required to change into school shoes for the duration of the day

7. Outdoor Clothing

- 7.1 We request that children have appropriate 'outdoor' clothing for the season.
- 7.2 Fleece are considered outdoor wear and children will be required to remove them when indoors. Children are not permitted to wear a fleece instead of a jumper / cardigan.

8. Non-Uniform Days

- 8.1 The school may hold 'Non-Uniform Days' from time to time. These may be held to support charities, to raise funds for the school, as a reward or to develop curriculum days (e.g. World Book day, Roald Dahl day etc.).
- 8.2 Children are not obliged to wear anything other than their school uniform on these days but are welcome to join in the fun. These occasions are not meant to cause any additional financial burden to parents in terms of buying specific clothes or costumes.
- 8.3 The school would still expect children to maintain standards of respectability in their dress in line with our school ethos during these days.

9. Hairstyles

- 9.1 The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children or raise health and safety concerns.
- 9.2 Shaved heads or hairstyles that are deemed by the school to be extreme are not acceptable.
- 9.3 For health and safety reasons, all long hair must be tied back whilst in school
- 9.4 Hair must not be dyed or bleached.
- 9.5 Hair accessories bands should be school colours or plain black. Hair clips should be kept to a minimum.

10. Tattoos

- 10.1 Tattoos, either temporary or permanent, are not permitted.

11. Make-up

- 11.1 The school does not allow children to wear make-up (unless it is being used for curriculum purposes e.g. school productions/themed Non-Uniform days), nail varnish or have nail extensions/false nails.

12. School Bags

- 12.1 Children do not need to bring lots of equipment or large bags to school. Coats, school bags and P.E. bags must fit on the child's hook in their class cloakroom, if it doesn't then your child will not be able to use the bag for school. All basic equipment e.g. pencils, rulers, handwriting pens, colouring pencils is provided by school. Any additional equipment brought in is at parents' own risk.

13. Lunchboxes and Water Bottles

- 13.1 Lunchboxes should be named, stored in the cloakroom and taken home every day. Water bottles should be named and kept in the assigned locations within the classroom.

14. Lost Property

- 14.1 The school accepts no responsibility for lost items.
- 14.2 All uniform must be clearly labelled with a child's full name and class. **Parents** should check that labelling is still visible on a regular basis. School staff will support parents with this and may direct children to name items, or indeed do so for them.
- 14.3 Pupils are encouraged to take responsibility for their own belongings.
- 14.4 All mislaid items are placed in the school lost property box located in the main entrance foyer. This box is emptied termly and although members of the school community will endeavour to find the owner of a lost item this is extremely difficult for 'un-named' items. All unnamed items, in good condition will be donated to charity.

15. Non-Compliance

- 15.1 The school will work sympathetically with families to ensure that children come to school dressed appropriately, however in line with government guidance the school will enforce sanctions against children if they fail to adhere to the school uniform policy. Sanctions will be in line with the school's Behaviour and Discipline Policy and pupils may find themselves internally excluded from their peers or in extreme circumstances, parents will be called and asked to collect children and take them home to change.
- 15.2 A parent/carer of any pupil with a genuine reason for not wearing an item of uniform must inform the school outlining the reason and agree a date when the pupil will be wearing the correct uniform.
- 15.3 If a child's uniform does not meet the standards outlined in this policy, parents will be informed by letter which will detail the issue that has arisen. Parents will be given the opportunity to rectify the matter within an agreed time scale. If the issue is not resolved, then the parent will be asked to meet with the headteacher or a member of the senior leadership team to discuss breaches in the policy. A school governor may attend this meeting too.

16. Role of the Headteacher

- 16.1 The headteacher
 - Will ensure that pupils comply with the school uniform policy
 - Has a duty to enforce the school uniform policy throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day-to-day discipline in the school
 - Will give due consideration to circumstances surrounding any pupil's non-compliance with the school's uniform policy.
- 16.2 The headteacher can discipline a pupil for breach of the school's uniform policy.

17. The Role of Staff

- 17.1 The staff will:

- Support the headteacher in maintaining high standards of uniform dress and inform the senior leadership team immediately when pupils do not follow the Uniform Policy
- Provide role models in the wearing of appropriate clothing.
- Make discrete and sympathetic enquiries when children fail to wear school uniform.
- Be aware of children whose standard of dress may indicate care issues at home and report concerns to the appropriate persons (see Child Protection Policy).
- Give positive encouragement to children setting good examples of dress.

18. The Role of Parents

- 18.1 The school asks all parents who send their children to our school to support 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.
- 18.2 Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean, in good repair and labelled with their child's name.
- 18.3 If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents 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 are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

19. The Role of Governors

- 19.1 The Governing Body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.
- 19.2 It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.
- 19.3 Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

20. The Role of Pupils

- 20.1 Pupils will
- Wear their school uniform when attending school, representing the school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.
 - Wear their uniform with pride.
 - Try to keep their uniform clean and tidy.
 - Remember to bring kit on the correct days.

- Make sure they follow our uniform dos and don'ts

21. Equality and Discrimination Issues

- 21.1 This policy has been written in conjunction with our Equality Policy in recognition of our obligation not to discriminate on grounds of sex, race, disability and religion. The policy avoids listing uniform based on gender to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
- 21.2 This policy has been updated to take into account the recent statutory guidance on the [cost of school uniforms](#) (November 2021) issued under the [Education \(Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms\) Act 2021](#). This guidance requires schools and their governing bodies to ensure the cost of school uniforms is reasonable and secures the best value for money.

22. Amendments to Uniform

- 22.1 The Governing Body implements the school uniform policy. If any parent would like to suggest practical changes to the school uniform they should initially speak to the headteacher. Any suggestions receiving popular support will be represented to the Governing Body for their discussion. The day-to-day implementation of school uniform lies with the headteacher.

23. Help with Costs

- 23.1 If any parent/carers cannot provide their child with school uniform because they cannot afford it financial help may be available. school uniform may include clothes for P.E. The parent/carer should initially talk (in confidence) with the headteacher or a member of the senior leadership team.
- 23.2 In exceptional circumstances Essex County Council may consider granting part funding for school clothing (See https://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Pupil-Parent-Support/Pages/Exceptional_grants.aspx).

24. Monitoring and Review

- 24.1 When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Governing Body will:
- Seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
 - Consider with the headteacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
 - Require the headteacher to report to the governors on the way in which the policy is being implemented.
- 24.2 This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body every four years, or earlier if considered necessary.

25. Document Version Control

Version	Date Issued	Author	Update Information
2022-1	March 2022	K Ellwood	Original issue. The policy was written to collate our current practices and reflect recent statutory guidance.
2024-1	April 2024	K Ellwood	The policy has been reviewed to avoid listing uniform items based on gender.