

School uniform policy

Capenhurst Voluntary Controlled Church of England Primary School



Written by: Mrs. Jemma Leach, parent governor

Approved by governing body on 23rd June 2022

Reviewed: September 2024 (changes to PE kit)

Next review: September 2027 unless

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 [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:

- › 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 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 school using contact@capenhurstcep.cheshire.sch.uk

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 [guidance](#) 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:

- › Making clear that items with a logo are optional and there is no obligation to purchase any items with a logo.
- › Encouraging families to wear plain items of uniform which can be purchased at a number of retailers such as supermarkets and other clothing retailers.
- › When non-uniform days are planned, there is no expectation of branded goods being worn. School asks that football kits are not worn.
- › Ensuring that uniform is the same for all pupils.
- › Asking for PE kits to be plain with items that can be purchased from most supermarkets and other clothing retailers.
- › School has a range of sports kits for children to wear when representing school in competitions. This removes the need for parents to purchase additional PE clothing for these events.
- › Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items

- 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

Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore

White shirt or white polo shirt (long or short sleeve)

Red school sweatshirt or cardigan

(Both of the above items can be purchased with a logo if parents choose – see details below)

Grey or dark plain socks

Grey shorts (summer term only)

Red and white checked dress (summer term only)

Black shoes – not trainers

Sandals can be worn in the summer term but socks are to be worn with them. Plastic, beach type footwear is not permitted in school

Red school fleece jacket with logo (optional)

Red school book bag with logo (optional)

The full P.E. kit is:

Red round necked T-shirt

Black shorts

Dark track suit bottoms (advisable in cold weather)

Trainers (for outdoor P.E.) Pumps (for indoor P.E.)

Spare socks/Sports socks (in case others get wet)

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on Mondays and Fridays and should wear school uniform on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our school uniform can be purchased at a number of outlets such as local supermarkets and other clothing retailers. Branded items can be purchased at the following outlets:

The Uniform Shop, 30 Overpool Road, Ellesmere Port, CH66 1JN - items can be ordered in store, by phone on 0151 345 4656 or online at:

<https://www.theuniformshopwebsite.co.uk/>

Forrester by Monkhouse - items can be ordered by telephone order on 0161 476 7216 or online at:

<http://www.monkhouse.com>

Pre-loved uniform can be purchased from a representative of the Friends of Capenhurst. This is usually Mrs Broomfield. Details of how to do this can be found on the closed school Facebook page. Pre-loved uniform is also available at school events such as intake evenings and sports days etc.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times - PE kit on Mondays and Fridays and school uniform on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. There may be occasions where non-uniform days are planned; these will be notified via the newsletter and ParentMail.

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, in good condition and clearly labelled with the child's name.

Parents are encouraged to contact school using contact@capenhurstcep.cheshire.sch.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their child's protected characteristics and/or the cost of the uniform. Adaptations to the school uniform can be made for pupils where their additional needs (particularly those pupils with sensory processing difficulties) when wearing the usual uniform cause distress, upset and anxiety. These adaptations will be discussed and agreed with the headteacher and staff will be made aware of these arrangements.

Parents are expected to lodge any comments or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be dealt with sensitively and the school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome. Where families wish to raise further concerns, they are to use the school's complaint's policy.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will approach pupils and families who appear to be struggling with the wearing of agreed school uniform with consideration and an appreciation that there may be valid reasons for this. More significant concerns about a child's appearance or families struggles with uniform are to be raised with the headteacher.

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 regularly discussing best pricing options for all.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by Jemma Leach, school governor. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board and Mrs Green the Headteacher.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints policy