South Gosforth First School

'Roots to grow and wings to fly'

South Gosforth First School

Uniform Policy

	Staff • Read it • Chance for feedback	FGB/Sub committee • Approved	Accessible • Website link saved
Review Date:	**October 2026**	**October 2026**	**October 2026**
Next Review Due:	**October 2027**		
Changes: No changes since previous policy			

Member of staff with responsibility:

- **Mr Bradley-Adams (Head Teacher)**
- **Miss Rachael Blackburn (Deputy Head Teacher)**
- **Mrs Catherine Burnett (EYFS Lead)**
- **Mrs Amanda Logan (KS2 Lead)**

Uniform Policy

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 the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible and making the logo items optional.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items that pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups or Key Stages
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Providing school kit for pupils participating in school sports teams
- 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
- Where there is a change, we will allow for a phased introduction of the uniform so that parents and carers can use up old uniform before buying new items
- Avoiding a high number of dressing up/fancy dress days and keeping non-uniform days as simple as possible.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

General Uniform

- A red sweatshirt or cardigan with new grey owl logo (or plain equivalent)
- A white polo shirt with new red owl logo (or plain equivalent)
- Grey trousers / skirt / pinafore
- Black school shoes (no trainers or open toed shoes will be permitted)
- A red gingham dress or grey shorts during the warmer months
- A red fleece with new grey owl logo - For outdoor use only (optional)
- Red book bag with grey logo (or plain alternative)
- Nursery Uniform – Red or white polo shirt, red sweater, grey or black jogging bottoms, black shoes or trainers

Outdoor clothing

As part of our school OPAL approach to play (see Play Policy), our children play outside in all types of weather. As a result, they need to have clothing that will keep them protected in all weathers.

- A warm, waterproof coat (red, logo optional). It is important that children bring a coat every day.
- Wellies
- Hats, gloves and scarves (in colder weather)
- Sun hat (in warmer weather)

PE Kit

- Plain black shorts
- Black leggings / jogging bottoms in the colder months
- A red round-neck t-shirt with grey owl logo (or plain equivalent)
- Black trainers or plimsolls

Jewellery

Small earring studs and a wrist watch may be worn (smart watches are not allowed); however these must be removed for PE. If earrings cannot be removed, they must be covered.

Hair Styles

Long hair should be tied up for safety reasons. Very decorative hair accessories (eg large bows/clip/hair bands) should not be worn as they could get damaged or broken and can make a minor bump to the head more serious or painful.

The Headteacher shall have the final say in deciding what is acceptable, so when in doubt parents should consult with him before buying items which might not be acceptable.

4.2 Where to purchase it

We do have recommended providers who stock either our branded uniform, or uniform which is in our school colours. These are:

'Emblematic' in Longbenton - https://emblematic.co.uk/longbenton-store/sgfs/

'School Trends' - https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/SouthGosforthFirstSchoolNE31YF

'Ciel' on Gosforth High Street - https://www.cielschooluniform.co.uk/

Parents and Carers may also choose to shop at other local stores – These uniform items may not have our school logo, but providing that they are in our school colours, they are still appropriate.

Parents can also visit the Community School Clothing Scheme in North Shields for free used and pre loved uniform. The scheme is also always grateful for any donations! Please check their Facebook page for opening times and further information - https://www.facebook.com/communityschoolclothingscheme/

We would strongly urge all Parents and Carers to label all uniform items as it is extremely difficult to return lost property to children if items are not clearly labelled.

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

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 so that it is comfortable and safe

Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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 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 Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

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 governing body 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 re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

Restorative Approach to Positive Behaviour Policy

Equality information and objectives statement

Anti-Bullying policy

Complaints policy