FOSTER'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Adopted on: 01/09/26

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Signed:

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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 Mr Hemley 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different years
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

The wearing of school uniform is a requirement. The clothing is of standard type obtainable generally within the normal price range from local shops and outfitters.

Grey trousers or

Grey shorts or

Grey pinafore dress or

Grey skirt

White or red polo shirt

Red sweatshirt or

Red jumper or

Red cardigan

Red and White checked summer dress may be worn during the summer term

Black or brown enclosed shoes with low heels

PE Tracksuits are also available. The children can also wear Foster's woolly hats in the winter and baseball caps in the summer.

Trainers are unsuitable for school and should not be worn except for PE or Games.

Please ensure all clothing is clearly named as we frequently have an enormous amount of unnamed, unclaimed lost property.

Dress for P.E

All children should have shorts and t-shirt for P.E. lessons. Plimsolls may be worn for dance and some outdoor activities. A warm jumper or tracksuit should be available for cold weather. Children in KS2 will require separate, suitable weatherproof footwear for football/netball/hockey.

For swimming lessons, children in year groups 5 and 6 require an appropriate costume and towel. For girls this means a one-piece swimming costume. Boys should wear swimming trunks not loose fitting swimming shorts. Swimming goggles may not be worn unless permission is given in writing by Parents/Carers. Under Local Authority regulations children may not wear earrings whilst swimming.

Jewellery

No jewellery may be worn at school. If your child has pierced ears, one pair of small studs may be worn. Under London Borough of Bexley regulations teachers cannot be responsible for either helping children to remove earrings or 'look after' these items. Either the child or the parent must remove earrings for P.E. This is both for the safety of your own child and other children.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform bearing the Foster's logo are obtainable from Mathews Schoolwear in Welling . You can order online using the link below or visit the shop :

Matthews Schoolwear
33 UPPER WICKHAM LANE, WELLING
KENT , Kent DA16 3AD

https://www.matthewsschoolwear.com/collections/leigh-academy-blackheath

Non-Logo Uniform Items and Preloved Uniform Availability:

At Foster's Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that our school uniform is affordable and accessible for all families. To support this commitment, we allow parents and carers to purchase non-logo uniform items from any retailer of their choice. This flexibility helps to ensure that families can find items that suit their budget and preferences.

In addition, we offer a preloved uniform service through our school office. For more information or to inquire about available preloved items, please contact the school office.

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 (if required)

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

Parents are also expected to contact Mr Hemley 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:

- Resolved locally
- 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the school's behaviour policy.

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 by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually .

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy