



## ***'School Uniform Policy'***



Updated	May 2021
Reviewed	May 2023
Next Review	May 2025

**With God's help we**

**CARE**

**BUILD**

**FOLLOW**

**THINK**

## Vision

We are a Christian school serving our local community which seeks to reflect the teaching and examples of Jesus Christ as set out in the Gospels. "This is my commandment; Love each other in the same way I have loved you" John 15 v 12

In accordance with our vision and mission - with God's help we, care, build, follow and think lies at the heart of this policy. We believe that all people are made in the image of God and are unconditionally loved by God. Everyone is equal and we treat each other with dignity and respect. Our school is a place where everyone is able to flourish in a loving and hospitable environment.

## Introduction

At Cottingham CofE we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school organised extra-curricular events outside of normal school hours. We ask children to wear their shirts tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take a pride in their personal appearance.

Some items of uniform can be purchased from our own chosen supplier (Subject to change), whilst other items are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets for example and via online shopping. ***It is not a requirement for children to wear uniform with the school logo.*** A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is included within this policy. We very much value your support in adhering to the policy.

## Aims and Objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that we are pleased to wear a uniform that:

- Promotes a sense of pride in Cottingham CofE Primary School
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Identifies pupils with the school
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion
- Prevents pupils from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class
- Is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind
- Is considered to be good value for money

This policy has been written based on consultation with staff, governors and parents. It has also been written taking into account non-statutory guidance from the Department for Education relating to best practice on developing school uniform policy to which schools are expected to take full account of. The Department strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone.

We are aware that some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code, or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include

wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. Pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief and we are sensitive to this. At times, we may have good reason for restricting an individual's freedoms, for example, the promotion of cohesion and good order in the school, or genuine health and safety or security considerations, the restriction of an individual's rights to manifest their religion or belief may be justified. We will balance the rights of individual pupils against the best interests of the school community.

This policy has been written with consideration to our obligations not to discriminate unlawfully.

### **Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish**

For many reasons, including pupil safety, we do not allow or see the need for children to wear jewellery/make up/nail varnish. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears. Children are required to remove/cover any items of jewellery during P.E. lessons to prevent them from causing injury.

*\*Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings. Children will be required to do so themselves or will be provided with a plaster/piece of tape.*

- Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be either red, grey or black to match our school uniform. Hair bands should not have large flowers or other decoration attached for example.
- Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school. Children will be asked to remove during the school day or prior to attending the next.
- Watches/basic fitness checkers may be worn and will be the responsibility of the child. Smart watches/fitness checkers are not permitted for safeguarding reasons.
- Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have hair coloured or dyed.
- We believe that children have many opportunities throughout the year when non-uniform and silly hair styles are permitted.

### **Footwear**

- All children are required to wear plain black footwear without bright, obvious logos. If boots are worn these should also be plain black.
- For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels.
- On PE days, children are asked to wear suitable trainers. Ideally these would be black/plain. Children will change out of trainers/socks for some activity in the hall (E.g. gym/dance) and perform in bare feet.
- Children in KS1/R, due to outdoor learning, are to have a named pair of 'wellies' in school at all times which are kept outside. Children will be reminded of the need to change into their 'wellies'.
- Whenever a member of staff deems footwear to be inappropriate they will contact the parent/carer to discuss future options. If appropriate, the child will be asked to wear alternative footwear following discussions.

## School daily uniform list

The daily school uniform at Cottingham CofE will consist of:

- Red jumpers, fleeces, red school hoodie or cardigans
- Red/white polo/formal shirt
- Black/grey trousers/trouser shorts
- Black/grey culottes
- Black/grey pinafore/tabard playsuit
- Red checked pinafores or skirts.
- Red book bag (R/KS1)
- Red/black cap

*\*Please note: School logo on items is not compulsory. We ask that items of uniform are unbranded and plain to ensure equality/access for all.*



Please also refer to the useful 'To wear or not to wear' guide attached.

## School PE uniform list

Children are permitted to wear the school PE uniform on each day that their class is timetabled for PE or when they are taking part in an arranged school sporting activity either during/after the school day. This is a new approach to wearing PE kit as a result of its success during the recent lockdowns and will allow children to access their full PE allocation. If a child is attending an after school club, they are able to bring their PE uniform and change into it after school. Their PE uniform should be brought to school in a small draw string bag. All items of PE uniform should be plain and with no branding.

- Plain black sports shorts
- Red T-Shirt
- Trainers – Velcro fastenings are ideal for younger children for indoor
- Red hoodie or fleece
- Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings
- Red/black draw string bag
- Plain red/black cap

*\*Please note: School logo on items is not compulsory. We ask that items of uniform are unbranded and plain to ensure equality/access for all.*

For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings for PE. Your child's teacher will advise you when PE lessons take place via the termly class news so that earrings can be removed/covered.

Any PE uniform should be plain and without branding, patterns or slogans etc. Please see the attached acceptable/not acceptable list. Football/sports club wear is not permitted.

Please also refer to the useful 'To wear or not to wear' guide attached.



## The Role of Governors (AGC)

The Academy Governance Committee (AGC) supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform

policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

The AGC are also expected to demonstrate transparency and best value for money when appointing suppliers. Our current nominated supplier is 'Your School Uniform'. The AGC will demonstrate that they have obtained the best value for money from suppliers. Any savings negotiated with suppliers should be passed on to parents wherever possible

In conjunction with the Headteacher, the AGC should describe its uniform/appearance policy clearly and ensure that parents are informed. The AGC should consider carefully, reasonable requests to vary the policy, in particular to meet the needs of any individual pupil to accommodate their religion or belief, ethnicity, disability or other special considerations.

### The Role of the Head Teacher

The Head teacher is responsible for setting out the requirements with regards to school uniform. They will consult with the school community and present a policy that allows children to attend school and learn in a safe and secure manner. The Head teacher will formulate a policy for uniform that is in keeping with the vision and values of Cottingham CofE Primary School and allows for equal opportunities at all times.

### The Role of the School staff

The school staff are responsible for implementing and putting into practise the uniform policy. They will act in a consistent manner to ensure that the uniform policy is adhered to. All staff will be responsible for monitoring the wearing of school uniform and PE kit and where this is not the case will liaise and support the family.

### The Role of Parents/Carers

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the **child's name is visibly labelled** on all items. If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be asked for a reason for doing so and asked to wear the appropriate items the following school day. The same system will apply for children who do not have their PE kit. If necessary, parents/carers will be contacted to discuss the matter.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the Uniform Policy will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request an exception to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the Headteacher.

Disputes about school uniforms should be resolved locally and should be pursued in accordance with the school's complaints policy. Parents should be able to lodge their complaints and/or objections easily. The AGC will consult and work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome if necessary.

## Monitoring and Review

The AGC/Headteacher monitors and reviews the school uniform policy, at appropriate intervals, through its committee work by:

- Seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- Considering, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform.

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To wear (Appropriate)



School – daily uniform \*selection of suitable items shown.



School – PE/sports uniform \*selection of suitable items shown.



Not to wear (Not appropriate)



School – daily uniform \*selection of non-suitable items shown.



School – PE/sports uniform \*selection of non-suitable items shown.

