



Walton CEVC Primary School

“Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day”

As a church school at the heart of the community, Walton CEVC Primary School is committed to provide each child with the opportunities to achieve their full potential academically, socially, emotionally, physically and spiritually. Through strong partnerships between home and school and inspired by Christian values, we aim to equip the children in our care with skills and confidence to meet future challenges.

Walton CEVC Primary School Uniform Policy

Statement of Intent

Walton CEVC Primary School believes that a consistent uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

1. Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including but not limited to the following;

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021

This policy has due regard to all the relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) ‘Cost of School Uniforms’
- DfE (2021) ‘School Admissions Code’
- DfE (2021) ‘School Uniform’

2. Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Body is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the Headteacher and the school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school’s vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school’s uniform is accessible and inclusive and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school uniform.
- Ensuring that the school’s uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money can be achieved in the school uniform.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE’s ‘Cost of School Uniforms’ guidance.

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The headteacher is responsible for:

Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.

Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.

Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

Providing pupils with an exemption as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Staff members are responsible for:

Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.

Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.

Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.

Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.

Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.

Looking after their uniform as appropriate.

Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community

3. Cost Principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
- The needs of Looked After Children (LAC)

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

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The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils to a minimum where possible to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Where the school decides to require an item of branded clothing, it will conduct an assessment to ensure prices are kept as low as possible.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

4. Equality Principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in section 3.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

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5. Complaints and Challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

6. School Uniform Supplier

Our current school uniform supplier is:

South West School
23 Broad Street,
Wells
BA5 2DJ

Their website is www.swschoolwear.co.uk

Tel: 01749 670000

The governing board will ensure that a written contract is in place with the supplier for branded items.

The school does not sign contracts with suppliers before requesting visualisations of proposed uniform, as well as fabric samples.

7. Uniform Assistance

The school can support vulnerable families in meeting some of the costs of uniforms. The budget for the school uniform assistance scheme comes from pupil premium funds.

The school holds pre-loved school uniform days for parents to access. Parents are also invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

8. Non-compliance

Staff members are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

The headteacher, or a person authorised by the headteacher, is permitted to ask a pupil to remedy breaches to the school's uniform.

9. School Uniform

Our School colours are; maroon

- Grey or black skirt / pinafore or trousers/ shorts (summer)
- White blouse or white polo shirt
- Red and white checked summer dress (in summer)
- Maroon school sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece embroidered with school logo and name
- White or black socks, grey or black tights
- Grey or black school shoes
- Sensible summer sandals (covered toes please)
- Black, brown or maroon hair bands and clips

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PE Kit: Suitable clothing is essential in order to participate fully in these sporting activities. Children will, therefore, need the following items:

- Black shorts
- White t-shirt
- Plimsolls or trainers.
- Plain sweatshirt or branded school hoodie and jogging bottoms are useful for P.E. sessions during the colder weather.

Jewellery: Permitted jewellery that may be worn is: One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted. Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed or covered during PE lessons.

Temporary tattoos and nail varnish are not permitted.

Book Bags: Pupils in Year R to Year 6 will need a maroon school book bag to store their books etc. The PTA buy a Bookbag for the pupils on entry to Reception or if they join our school in other school years.

Hairstyles: The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Hair should be neat and tidy and not dyed. Long hair (longer than shoulder length) should be tied back especially for PE, and where directed. Please keep fringes at a length where they can see out clearly, or clip back if too long or growing out. Ornate hair decorations are not permitted.

10. Adverse weather

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Loose-fitting and lightweight shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
- Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
- Tops that cover the shoulder area.
- Sunglasses with UV protection when outside, where possible.

Pupils are advised not to wear any jumpers or blazers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.
- Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

11. Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name. Any lost clothing is taken to the class lost property box. All lost property is retained for half a term, it will be displayed outside in the playground at various intervals and if not claimed, is then given to the PTA to wash and re-sell or recycled if not suitable for this purpose.

12. Monitoring and Review

This policy is reviewed annually by the chair of governors and the headteacher. The scheduled review date for this policy is July 2026.