

ASTON FENCE J & I SCHOOL



Uniform Policy

January 2022

Aston Fence J & I **School**



Uniform Policy

At Aston Fence, 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 events outside normal school hours. We ask children to wear their uniform with pride.

Some items of uniform can be purchased from a variety of stockists, whilst others are easily available at very competitive prices from local shops including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform, including those for Physical Education, can be found further on in this document.

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 our 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

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

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

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of School Uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School Uniforms'

Roles and Responsibilities

The governing body is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and 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's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's '[Cost of school uniforms](#)' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis. .
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community with regards to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with permission for 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 whenever possible.
- Reminding pupils of the expectations when they 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 labelled clearly with their child's name.

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.

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.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

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.
- LAC and PLAC.

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. polo shirts, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils to a minimum where so 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.

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.

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.

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 previously.

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:

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.
- 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 List' 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 in line with the LGBTQ+ Policy.

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, in consultation with the governing body, 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 body, 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.

School Uniform List

There is a school uniform at Aston Fence that's consists of:

- Emerald sweatshirt or cardigan embroidered with the school's eagle emblem
- Emerald or gold polo shirt
- Grey or black trousers, shorts, pinafore dress or skirt
- Emerald or gold and white gingham dress

Please note skirts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows sitting comfortably on the floor. When shorts are worn, they should also be of an appropriate length.

P.E. Kit

Children need a change of clothes and footwear for P.E (for health and hygiene reasons) and a bag in which to keep the kit at school. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing; please help us by naming everything.

P.E. Uniform is:

Indoor

- Black shorts, gym skirt or leotard
- Plain white t-shirt

Outdoor

- Trainers or football boots (optional, depending on the sport being taught)
- Tracksuit or similar warm clothing

For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings for PE.

Jewellery, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For many reasons, including safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears. Children are required to remove any items during P.E. lessons to prevent them from causing injury.

Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings.

Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school.

Footwear

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes. If boots are worn, these should also be plain black.

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.

Uniform Assistance

The school holds second-hand school uniforms in school for parents to access. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

Monitoring and Review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee workby:

- 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.