

1. Introduction

1.1 The purpose of this policy is 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 of children in Weaver Trust.

1.2 It will explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.

1.3 It will clarify our expectations for school uniform.

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

2.1 The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

2.2 To avoid discrimination, Weaver Trust 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 Miss Holly Martin, Head of School, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

3.1 Adapt this section, taking into account factors such as:

3.1 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.

3.2 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.

3.3 We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

3.4 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, such as ties

- 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 year groups
- 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:

- Navy sweatshirt with school logo
- Pale blue polo shirt (school logo optional)
- Plain grey skirt, pinafore, trousers or shorts
- Black school shoes
- Plain grey, black, white socks or grey tights
- Navy fleece with school logo (optional)
- Blue gingham dress (summer)

PE Kit

- White crew neck t-shirt (school logo optional)
- Plain navy shorts
- Navy/black tracksuit bottoms or leggings (winter)
- Navy/black sweatshirt (winter)
- Trainers

All children will be expected to remove stud earrings for PE. No other jewellery is permitted in school.

4.2 Where to purchase it

4.2.1 The school sweatshirt can be bought from: Northwich Schoolwear :

<https://northwichschoolwear.co.uk/collections/comberbach-primary-school>

4.2.2. Parents and carers can obtain all other uniform can be bought more widely from 'high-street' retailers

4.2.3 In our schools, there will be a 'uniform exchange' which will allow parents and carers to source good quality, pre-loved uniform

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

5.1.1 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

5.1.2 Pupils are also expected to contact Miss Holly Martin if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

5.2.1 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

5.2.2 Parents are also expected to contact Miss Holly Martin if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

5.2.3 Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

5.2.4 Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's Complaints Policy

5.2.5 The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

5.3.1 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.

5.3.2 Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Miss Holly Martin.

5.3.3 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

5.4.1 The Local Education Committee 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

5.4.2 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. Background Information

6.1 This policy has been reviewed by the Trustees, staff, governors and our School Council. This policy is to be

6.2 This policy is not a discreet document, but must be seen as an integral part of all other policies, especially those concerned with discipline, behaviour and the personal and social education of pupils. As such it concerns all members of staff within the school.

6.3 Associated policies include:

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

7. Review

7.1 This policy was drawn up in consultation with staff, parents and governors. This policy will be reviewed every two years by Mr Phil Atkinson, Trust Operations Manager.

7.2 At every review, it will be approved by Weaver Trust Board

Approved by:

Chair of Trust

CEO

Date:
