



pathfield
SCHOOL
Inspiring interaction

School Uniform Policy

Adopted by Governors Date	Full Governing Body 19.07.22
Review Date (Every 3 years)	July 2025
Policy / Procedure checked by Date	Stuart Allman July 2022

Pathfield School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

This policy will support, promote and be applied with due regard to the requirements of the

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Pathfield School - School Uniform Policy

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 general clothing, non-compulsory school uniform, and essential items pupils may need.

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.
- Allow all pupils to have long hair.
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate and safe for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols if it is safe for the individual pupil to do so.
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher via admin@pathfield.devon.sch.uk who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

3. Expectations for School Uniform and Costs

3.1 Our School's Non-Compulsory Uniform

At Pathfield School we recognise that many of our pupils have significant sensory processing difficulties and that they can struggle with the textures of fabrics or styles of clothing against their skin, and we know that to be calm, regulated, and ready to learn, our pupils need to be comfortable and relaxed. Therefore, pupils may wear any shirt, blouse, T-shirt, trousers, or skirts including jeans and jogging bottoms. These items should be clean and smart in appearance with no inappropriate slogans. Parents should note that due to the nature of our multi-sensory curriculum pupils may engage in messy or sensory play and so 'best clothes and shoes' are not suitable / recommended for school.

A range of Pathfield School uniform items bearing the school logo are available for direct order from our uniform supplier, Brand It (01271 377 222 / brandit@customtops.co.uk). These items include:

- Polo Shirts
- Sweatshirts
- Cardigans

There are different uniform colourways for Primary and Secondary aged pupils and for Pathways pupils to help create an identity for each department. There are no uniform expectations for Post-16 pupils. However, pupils may continue to wear a uniform from a different phase of school if the uniform still fits appropriately.

Pupils must wear shoes that fit well, are safe and comfortable; preferably ones that they can learn to put on and off themselves including trainers of any colour.

No jewellery should be worn to school except for one pair of stud earrings (no multiple studs), a single small religious symbol will be permitted and respected and a small plain watch.

Pupils must also come to school with a suitable change of clothes for physical education activities:

- a change of clothes for PE – plimsolls / trainers / shorts and T-shirt (any colour with no inappropriate slogans)
- swimming costume (any colour) a towel and swimming nappies if needed

3.2 Costs

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we suggest to families is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform. The maximum price for any of the non-compulsory uniform items available from the school office is currently £16.80 (for a blue cardigan with the school logo on it). Second hand uniform items are available on request from the school and at the annual school summer fair.

4. Expectations for the Adults in our School Community

4.1 Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child:

- is dressed safely and appropriately for school
- brings appropriate clothing for PE and water play activities (and swimming nappies if required)
- has adequate changes of clothes in school if they are prone to toileting accidents or being toilet trained
- has an adequate supply of nappies in school if appropriate

Parents should ensure that items are:

- clean / fresh
- clearly labelled with the pupil's name
- in good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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's clothing and uniform expectations 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.

4.2 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are dressed appropriately and safely, that all items are clearly labelled, and that the pupil has all required items for PE activities and toileting needs. If there are concerns about any of this, the matter will be raised with the parents / carers.

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.

4.3 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
- considers the views of parents and pupils
- offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical, and safe for all pupils

5. Monitoring Arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.