Fordbridge Community Primary School

Achieving excellence together

Fordbridge School Uniform Policy

Approved by Mrs H Simcox: Date: September 2026

Date: September 2026

Reviewed by: Ms Sam Spencer: Chair of Governors

Review date: September 2027

Fordbridge School- Uniform Policy

Contents

1. Aims 2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform 3
4. Expectations for school uniform 3
5. Expectations for our school community 4
6. Monitoring arrangements 5
7. Links to other policies 5

---

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 school uniform

Wearing the correct school uniform ensures that your child belongs to part of our team and the Fordbridge Family.

In accordance with Department for Education statutory guidance, Fordbridge Community Primary School will not require more than three compulsory branded uniform items. Any additional branded items will be optional.

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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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
- 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with any member of the school office in person or via office@fordbridge.solihull.sch.uk who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

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.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that 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.

We will make sure our uniform:

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

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 and/or long-lasting items
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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

To maintain high standards and ensure the health and safety of all pupils, we kindly ask that the following uniform guidelines are followed throughout the school day:

- **Hair**: Long hair should be tied back during the school day, especially during physical activities, including PE and lunchtime play, to help prevent accidents.
- **Jewellery**: For safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn in school. This includes **necklaces, bracelets, rings, and SMART watches**. If worn, these items are brought in at the wearer's own risk and pupils will be asked to remove them before taking part in any physical activity.
- **Earrings**: Small stud earrings are permitted. No hoops or dangly earrings are allowed.
- **Acrylic Nails**: Acrylic or long false nails are not permitted in school, as they pose a risk of injury and are not appropriate for school activities. Painted nails are permitted.
- Please avoid makeup including false eyelashes.

Labelling Uniform and Personal Items
We recommend that all clothing, footwear, bags, and other belongings are clearly labelled with your child's name. This supports the quick return of lost items and helps prevent property from going missing.

Thank you for supporting our school policies and helping us to keep all pupils safe, comfortable, and ready to learn.

- **Burgundy sweatshirt / cardigan – logo optional**

- **White or blue polo shirt – <u>logo optional</u>**
- **Grey or black trousers / shorts /skirt / pinafore**
- **Logo book bags are optional**
- **School shoes or all black trainers (no crocs, open toe shoes or heeled, due to health and safety)**

PE - It is important children wear the correct PE uniform, so that they feel and look like part of the school sports team.

- **Nursery – Year 2: plain white or burgundy t-shirt – logo optional**
- **Years 3 – Year 6: plain burgundy t-shirt – logo optional (1 per child provided free)**
- **Black shorts (knee length) / jogging bottoms / leggings – plain**
- **Trainers**

Swimming

- **Swimming costume/trunks**
- **Towel**
- **Swimming hat (optional)**

4.2 Where to purchase it

Items with logos can be purchased from Mansuri Schoolwear or Brigade Clothing. Alternatively, school uniform can be purchased from high-street/supermarket retailers.

We hold an annual swap shop whereby second-hand school uniforms are available. We believe in sustainability, and therefore embrace extending the life of garments.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

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 (if required)

5.2 Parents and carers

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

Parents are also expected to contact Mrs Orton via office@fordbridge.solihull.sch.uk 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 uniform 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.

5.3 Staff

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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by members of the SLT in accordance with the school's behaviour policy.

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

Governors will regularly review uniform arrangements to ensure compliance with current DfE statutory guidance regarding affordability and branded item limits.

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
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Monitoring arrangements

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

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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