

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

CURRENT POLICY REDRAFT/AMENDMENTS	Yes	<i>If Yes please provide brief details of changes below and highlight changes in yellow.</i>	
NEW POLICY	No	AUTHOR	C.Wilson
LAST REVIEWED	Summer 2024	NEXT REVIEW	Summer 2025
REVIEW CYCLE	Annually	TO BE RATIFIED BY TRUSTEES	No
		TO BE RATIFIED BY THE LGB	Yes
DATE APPROVED BY LGB	TBC		
Name of LiFE MAT School:	DESFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL		

Changes to the policy have been minimal and mostly following suggestions from parents. In most cases the changes or additions have been to add further clarity to the policy rather than make changes to the uniform. Key changes are:

- Additional clarity that hoodies are not part of the school uniform, only plain hoodies for PE are permitted
- Additional clarity about footwear, that it should be plain/black and not therefore white or coloured trainers.
- Jewellery was already not permitted, specifics about the type of jewellery not allowed have been added
- Additional clarity that PE tops should be plain and in school colours, not be sports team shirts.
- Clarity about the type of hair accessories that are permitted
- Additional detail about what staff will do when children are not coming to school in uniform
- Further clarity about the need to remove earrings for PE

Desford Community Primary School – School Uniform Policy

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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

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 the headteacher or deputy headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 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.

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, by only asking that the uniform colours identified in our school uniform poster/leaflet are required, not that they must contain the school logo.
- Considering colours for poloshirts that are readily available from a range of retailers and are also not restricted to just one colour.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties and fleeces.
- 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 leveller.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups unless there is a benefit to secondary school transition.
- 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

At Desford Community Primary School, we ask that all children wear school uniform. The importance of school uniform is well documented, with some of the benefits being the encouragement of a sense of community, equality and fairness, improved behaviour and focus, prevention of bullying and helping to maintain high expectations. More information about this is contained in the School Uniform Poster/Leaflet in the appendices of the School Uniform Policy.

Polo Shirts and Shirts:

- Children in the school years from EYFS up to and including year 5 are required to wear a polo shirt in white, sky blue or dark/royal blue.
- Some children may choose to wear a white shirt or blouse

- Children in year 6 are required to wear a long or short sleeved white shirt or blouse instead of a polo shirt. They will also need to wear a school tie, these are available directly from the school. This is to aid with their transition to secondary education where a shirt and tie are likely to be mandatory.
- Whilst the items above are available with the school logo, branded uniform is not required as long the uniform purchased still complies with the agreed school uniform colours.

Jumpers, fleeces and cardigans:

- Children in all year groups are required to wear a plain dark blue jumper, fleece or cardigan.
- Children in the school years from EYFS up to and including year 5 may choose to wear a blue and white chequered dress (see the uniform poster for a picture).
- Jumpers, fleeces and cardigans are available with the school logo, but branded uniform is not required as long as the uniform purchased still complies with the agreed school uniform colours.
- Hoodies are not permitted as part of the school uniform, even if they are in the school colours.

Trousers, shorts, skirts and footwear:

- Children in all year groups are required to wear dark (e.g. grey/black) school trousers, school shorts or school skirts
- Footwear should be plain black, smart, sensible and comfortable shoes or trainers. Trainers must be plain black, with no white/coloured logos or soles. Open toed footwear is not permitted.
- None of these items are available as branded school uniform so they can also be purchased from a retailer of choice.

Jewellery and Devices:

- The school will take the requirements described above for avoiding discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010 when setting expectations for jewellery and hairstyles.
- Jewellery, such as earrings, necklaces, bracelets and friendship bands are not permitted with the exception of small studded earrings.
- Watches are allowed. Devices that have the capacity to take video/photos or send & receive messages or calls not permitted.
- Children with permission to walk home alone are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school but must have written permission from a parent. Please see the separate mobile phone policy on whole to do this.

Hairstyles accessories and other aspects:

- The school will take the requirements described above for avoiding discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010 when setting expectations for jewellery and hairstyles.
- Children are required to have smart and presentable hairstyles whilst allowing for some self-expression.
- Long hair may need to be tied back if it is inhibiting or obstructing effective work in the classroom.
- Children's hairstyles must not contain offensive patterns or language.
- Hair should not contain any unnatural colours
- Small, subtle hair accessories in school uniform colours are permitted (e.g. blue, white, black or grey).
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted.
- Where the school consider a child's hairstyle to not be in keeping with the school uniform or rules, they will speak directly with the parents about this to encourage a change.
- Children may be asked to remove make up as this is not considered to be in keeping with the ethos of the uniform policy. Where make up is excessive or obvious, it will be asked to be removed.

Bags and Coats:

- There are no specific requirements for bags and coats so the following should be seen as advisory:
 - Rucksacks of a modest size that fit essential school equipment, and a drawstring PE bag, help to maximise the space available in school cloakrooms.
 - Bags should not display any offensive slogans, images or language

- Coats should be suitable for the weather at different times of the year

PE and swimming kit:

- A full range of school PE kit is available for purchase as branded items, but there is no requirement for PE kit to be branded.
- Children will need and are permitted to wear Tshirts, jumpers, shorts, tracksuit bottoms and leggings for PE.
- All PE kit should be in the agreed school uniform colours as outlined in the sections above (e.g. white, light blue, dark blue, grey and black).
- PE kit should be plain and not contain any large logos or slogans on it or represent any sports team (e.g. known football or rugby team shirts).
- PE trainers and/or plimsolls will be required for PE and should be suitable for inside and outside use
- All PE kit is required to be age appropriate and not revealing in a way that could cause offence.
- All jewellery and watches must be removed for PE lessons. It may be more convenient for the children if these are removed prior to them coming into school
- Long hair will need tying back for PE lessons for safety reasons
- Earrings that are not able to be removed will need covering with a micropore tape that parents provide
- All earrings must be removed for swimming lessons

4.2 Where to purchase it

Parents can obtain branded school uniform from a number of places:

- Your School Uniform.com (branded)
- Liss Sport (PE uniform)
- Pre-loved items from school with all proceeds going to The Friends of Desford Community Primary School (FODCPS) Parents and Carers voluntary organization.
- Links to these three suppliers can be found on the uniform page of our school website <https://www.desford.leics.sch.uk/uniform/>
- Due to the colour choices of our uniform, all items can be purchased as unbranded from various online retailers and local shops and supermarkets.

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
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)
- Parents, Carers and Pupils are also expected to contact the headteacher or deputy headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 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 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.

School uniform and the Pupil Premium:

- The Pupil Premium is extra government money which is paid to schools to support children's learning and development. This is awarded to children from families where deprivation or personal circumstances could be seen to disadvantage their development.
- We can support you in finding out if your child could receive the extra money. Please visit <https://www.desford.leics.sch.uk/pupil-premium-and-free-school-meals/> for more information.
- We can provide some free, school uniform for children who qualify for the Pupil Premium. Once your application has been approved, please contact the school office to request this.

5.3 Staff

The expectation is that all children will wear our school uniform for the reasons that are detailed in this policy and the accompanying information in the appendices. The Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform.

We do however appreciate that there will be times when your child does not have uniform or is awaiting a delivery of new uniform. Where children regularly turn up in clothing that is not school uniform we may:

- Speak to the children or contact parents to offer support or remind them of the expectations
- Ask children to remove items that are not in line with the uniform policy (e.g. hoodies, jewellery, headwear, hair accessories)
- Provide a child with a spare fleece or jumper on days that they do not have their own uniform

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.

This approach is so that all children are able to experience the benefits documented in the leaflet and can continue to feel the sense of belonging and community that wearing the uniform brings.

5.4 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
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

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. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed 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



OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

At Desford Community Primary School, we ask that all children wear school uniform. The importance of school uniform is well documented in helping to maintain high expectations, with some of the other benefits being the encouragement of a sense of community, equality and fairness, and improved behaviour. This page outlines the uniform expectations. Our full uniform policy can be found on our school website. We do allow reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality. Please contact the school office to make any requests of this nature. Where uniform expectations are not being met, we will speak with parents, ask children to remove items, or provide spare uniform for the duration of that school day.

Blue/white polo shirt as shown

Royal/cobalt blue jumper fleece or cardigan as shown

YEAR 6 ONLY
White, long/short sleeved shirt with tie

Blue checked dress

Grey/black trousers, shorts, skirt or dress

Plain black, sensible shoes/trainers

Backpack/Bookbag (school options available)



School options for bags are available but children can choose their own style of bag if they would prefer.

Jewellery & Devices



Jewellery such as earrings, necklaces, bracelets and friendship bands are not permitted, with the exception of **small studded earrings**.



Watches are allowed. Devices that have the capacity to take video/photos or send & receive messages or calls not permitted.



Mobile phones are not permitted in school except in circumstances outlined in the mobile phone policy which can be found on the school website.

Hair & Accessories



Hair should be smart and presentable whilst allowing for some self-expression.



Small, subtle hair accessories in school uniform colours are permitted (e.g. blue, white, black and grey).



Children can wear hats during outdoor social time and in PE lessons for sun protection.

All school uniform items MUST be clearly labelled with your child's name

Whilst we encourage children to purchase uniform with the school logo on it, uniform purchased from other suppliers in the same colours is also acceptable. We stock a range of pre-loved uniform at school with all proceeds going to The Friends of Desford Community Primary School (FODCPS) parent group. Please ask at the school office for details. We also welcome donations of any items of pre-loved uniform that is in good condition and in line with the requirements outlined above. There is more information on the school website on how to place uniform orders.



PE KIT & INFORMATION

The principles that apply to school uniform also apply to PE kit. It is also important for younger children to develop independence in changing for PE and for all children to wear clothing and footwear that keeps them safe and allows flexibility of movement. PE kit should be plain and not contain any large logos or slogans on it or represent any sports team (e.g. known football or rugby team shirts). Below is an outline of the options for PE kit.

THE TOP HALF

We ask that your child always changes into a different top for PE. This should be a standard plain T-shirt or sport T-shirt and in one of the colours shown below.



T-shirt



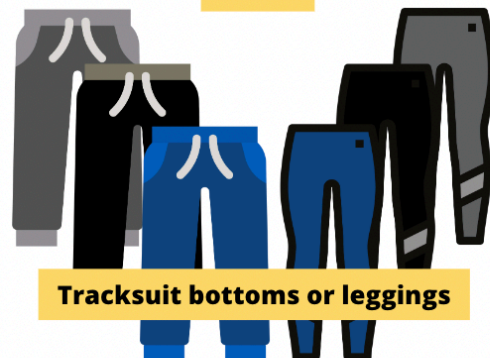
Jumper

THE LOWER HALF

We appreciate that finding shorts, tracksuits or leggings in school colours may be more difficult from some shops, so we ask that you buy them in line with the readily available colour scheme shown below.



Shorts



Tracksuit bottoms or leggings

PE SAFETY

JEWELLERY



We ask that all jewellery and watches are removed for PE lessons. It may be more convenient for jewellery to be removed on PE days. We do keep spare micropore tape for covering earrings where the child is unable to remove them themselves.

HAIR



All children with longer hair need to tie their hair back for PE lessons. Where children do not have hair ties, we will provide them to the children.

WEATHER



Children in Key Stage 2 need to be prepared for outside PE but children in EYFS, Y1 and Y2 will usually be indoors when the weather is colder.

NON-PARTICIPANTS



Pupils unable to take an active part in a lesson will fulfil a non-participant role such as: a journalist; equipment manager; coach; referee.

Footwear does not need to be in the school colours and should be PE trainers that fit comfortably.



PE Trainers or plimsolls

Whilst we encourage children to purchase uniform with the school logo on it, uniform purchased from other suppliers in the colours shown is also acceptable. The Friends of Desford Community Primary School (FODCPS) parent group also stock a good supply of second hand uniform.

Please visit our school website for more information about placing uniform orders.

WHY WEAR SCHOOL UNIFORM?

There are many benefits and reasons for why wearing a school uniform is an important part of coming to school. At Desford Community Primary School, we encourage all children to dress smartly and wear our school colours, whilst sometimes supporting families with access to uniform or providing spare uniform for children who have forgotten theirs. **Below are the reasons why we value school uniform at Desford.**

1) School Ethos & Identity



By asking everyone to wear the same set of clothes, this encourages a sense of unity, so that all children understand that they belong to the group that is Desford Community Primary School and take pride in that.

2) Equality and Fairness

When everyone wears the same uniform regardless of gender or background, this removes any preconceived ideas about what to wear, allowing for greater group cohesion and commonality.



3) Socioeconomic solution

Children can often tell one another's socioeconomic status or background based on the clothing they are wearing, this then becomes a basis for bullying and discrimination. If everyone wears the same uniform, it is harder to notice these differences.

4) Improved Behaviour

School uniforms help to establish good behaviour expectations among children, making them less likely to act out or break other rules.

5) Reduced Bullying

Schools use uniform to cut down on bullying. By encouraging everyone to wear the same set of clothes, this reduces the opportunities for children to make fun of each other based upon their clothing choices.



6) Improved Focus

School uniforms are proven to help children focus on their schoolwork. As they develop an association between uniform and learning, simply putting on their uniform helps a child get into the right mindset, preparing them for a day of working hard and focussing.



7) Pupil Identification

School uniforms are good for school trips as well as on site learning. Children wearing school uniforms are easier to identify and keep track of in large crowds.



8) Dress for Success

Children need to learn the importance of dressing appropriately for each situation they encounter in life. Having a uniform prepares children for the expectations that are enforced in secondary education and that they may encounter in the working world.



DESFORD COMMUNITY PRIMARY SCHOOL PARENT FORM

REQUEST FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM CHANGE/ADAPTATION

Your Name:

Pupil's Name:

Your Relationship to pupil:

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY: At Desford Community Primary School, we ask that all children wear school uniform. The importance of school uniform is well documented, with some of the benefits being the encouragement of a sense of community, equality and fairness, improved behaviour and focus, prevention of bullying and helping to maintain high expectations. More information about this is contained in the School Uniform Poster/Leaflet in the appendices of the School Uniform Policy.

Please answer the following questions to help us in responding fully to your questions or request.

Have you contacted your child's teacher?
Yes/No

Have you read the School Uniform policy?
Yes/No

1) Please provide a description of the change/adaptation to the school's school uniform requirements that you would like the school to consider for your child.

2) Please provide reasons for why you consider this request to be necessary.

Signature:

Date:

SCHOOL USE ONLY

Date form received:

Response with agreed actions for school and parent/carers (following discussion)