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## Garden Village Primary Academy

# Uniform Policy

## Document Control

Policy Title	Uniform Policy
Effective Date	April 2024
Policy Owner	Garden Village Primary Academy
Policy Approver	Local Governing Body

## Version Control

Version	Date	Amended by	Comments
1	29.4.24	SB	New Policy
2	September 2024	SB	Change of Local Governing Board name to Local Governing Committee
3	June 2025	SB	No changes

Section	Changes Made
5, 6	Change of Local Governing Board name to Local Governing Committee

# Contents

## 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out the Garden Village Primary 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 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.
- 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 smart for school yet makes them feel most comfortable. We do not accept tram lines or dyed hair.
- 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 contact Mrs. Burke who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

## 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 continue to 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 for example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo.
- 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 does not 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/class/house 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 at Garden Village Primary Academy

### 4.1 The uniform

- A burgundy sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without the logo);
- White shirt/blouse;
- A bespoke Garden Village designed tie;
- Pale grey skirts, culottes, pinafores, shorts or trousers;
- Black school shoes (no logos). *Please note our expectation will be that children will not wear trainers, boots or coloured shoes;*
- Hijab, hair ties or bands should be burgundy or pale grey;
- **In the summer term**, school dresses can be worn. These should be burgundy and white check;
- Jewellery is not accepted in school except small stud earrings (removed for PE);
- **For Forest school**, wet weatherproof clothing, wellington boots and a hat, as appropriate;
- A school coat which is warm and readily identifiable by the child.

### GVPA PE Kit:

- A plain white PE T-shirt;

- Plain black shorts;
- Black PE footwear (trainers and plimsolls) suitable for both indoor and outdoor activities;
- Black tracksuit for outdoor PE.
- PE drawstring bag.

**GVPA Forest school** when required:

- wet weatherproof clothing;
- wellington boots;
- hat.

GVPA Additional Uniform:

- A school book bag with the GVPA logo printed on it (Logo optional)
- A school coat which is warm and readily identifiable by the child (required)

**4.2 Where to purchase the uniform**

- Parents and carers can obtain the uniform more widely, e.g., from 'high street' retailers e.g., Asda, Marks, and Spencer or Sainsburys.
- WB School Supplies [Online Store - WB Schoolwear \(wbglobaltrading.co.uk\)](http://wbglobaltrading.co.uk) (School Uniform with logo)
- [Garden Village Primary Academy – Welcome to SK School Uniforms](#)
- The school Office will have a selection of quality second-hand uniforms which have been donated by parents.

**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) whilst:

- 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs. Burke if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

**5.1 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. Burke 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.

## **5.2 Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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 Mrs. Burke.

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.

## **5.3 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.

The Local Governing Committee 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 if appropriate.

## **6 Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Headteacher, Mrs. Burke. At every review, it will be approved by the full Local Governing Committee.

## **7 Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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