

School Uniform Policy

West Croft School



WEST CROFT SCHOOL

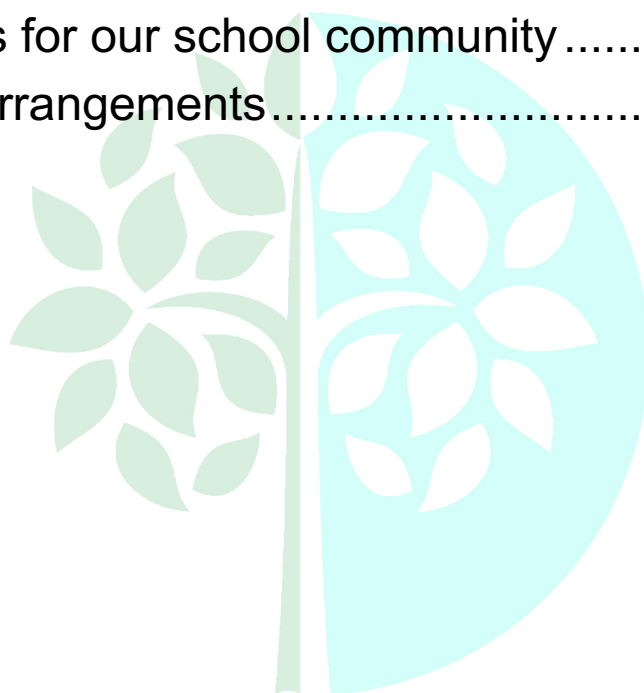
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1. Aims

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
- The school will consider carefully requests made to vary the policy to meet the needs of an individual pupil because of a temporary or permanent medical condition or impairment.
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes

- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class
- 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/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items- our preloved section
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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

- We are grateful to those parents who support our uniform policy. We take great pride in how our children present themselves:
 - West Croft School or plain sweatshirts - bottle green
 - Shirts/Polo shirts and blouses - white
 - Skirts or pinafore dresses - grey or black
 - Trousers or shorts - grey or black – no leggings or jeans
 - Summer dresses - green check
 - Socks/Tights - grey, black or white
 - Shoes – Black – Shoes should be appropriate for class and break times. Sandals and open-toed shoes are not suitable
 - PE – Plain black shorts and plain white t-shirts (black jogging bottoms/tracksuits in cold weather)
- Shoes should be appropriate for class and break times. For health and safety reasons, we do not allow pupils to wear shoes with platform soles, Heelys or high heels. All pupils are required to wear flat, plain black shoes without logos- this includes trainers. These should be closed in with no toes visible. If boots are worn, these should also be flat and plain black. Sandals and flip-flops are not permitted.
- PE- children come into school wearing their PE kit on the correct PE day, which the teacher will notify via dojos. PE kit is white t-shirt and black shorts/legging or joggers. Please note that PE shorts must be longer than mid-thigh and just above the knee.
- If your child is wearing jewellery, they will be required to remove it for PE. In line with Devon County Council, we do not allow the taping over of earrings for any physical activity. Children with pierced ears are to wear small studs. Jewellery such as bracelets, necklaces and anklets are not to be worn however, in some circumstances where it may be for religious, then please speak with the Head Teacher to make aware.
- Watches can be worn by pupils, but these are to be digital or analogue watches. No 'Smart watches' will be permitted. 'Smart watches' are deemed as watches that can receive notifications from outside of school, watches containing private information (texts and/or photos) or could record others via a camera.
- Long hair should be tied back. No unnaturally dyed hair; only natural hair colour will be accepted.
- Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco.
- When children go swimming, they are to wear a swimming costume or swimming shorts- no rash vests. Children are also required to bring in a swimming hat, goggles and a towel. Children are asked to come in with their swimming costume on underneath their uniform where possible.

- Pupils are free to wear a headscarf at West Croft if they wish to do so. However, they must be either plain black, white, grey or green.
- No logos or branded items on clothing.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Uniform can be purchased from the school office. We have a range of different sizes for the children to try beforehand
- It can also be purchased from local supermarkets.
- Second-hand uniform- we have a preloved section, where parents can purchase second hand uniform for a small donation.

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the 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/carers 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/carers 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/carers 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 using 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

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/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The Governing 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 again in July 2026 by the Headteacher and chair of governors. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Board and Senior Leadership Team.



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