



Countess Gytha Primary School

School Uniform Policy

Approved by:	Local Governing Body
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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	5
6. Monitoring arrangements	7

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 guardians
- 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:

- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex
- 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 appropriate for school yet makes them feel comfortable
- Allow parents to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow children to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking parents to get in touch with the Head Teacher via office@countessgytha.ppat365.org – who will 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 items that must 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/guardians

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 or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- 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
- 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

'Required' meaning a non-negotiable

'Optional' meaning either / or

'Specific' meaning from a specific seller

'Generic' meaning from any seller

4.1 Our school's uniform

Our uniform runs over two seasons, to ensure the comfort of those wearing it. There is a degree of overlap given to recognise the variability of the weather.

Between September and the Easter holiday:

- Navy U or V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan which may bear the school's logo (required – specific or generic)
- White shirt or blouse (required - generic)
- Grey or black shorts, trousers or pinafore (required - generic)
- Navy, grey or black tights (optional - generic)
- Navy, grey, black or white socks (optional - generic)
- Navy and green striped tie (required - specific)
- Black school shoes or black boots, not to rise above the ankle (required - generic)

From the Easter holiday until October Half-Term

- Navy U or V-neck sweatshirt or cardigan which may bear the school's logo (required – specific or generic)
- White shirt or blouse (required - generic)
- Grey or black shorts, trousers or pinafore (required - generic)
- Blue checkered summer dress or trouser variant thereof (optional – generic)
- Navy, grey or black tights (optional - generic)
- Navy, grey, black or white socks (optional - generic)
- Navy and green striped tie (required - specific) Ties may be withdrawn the discretion of the Head Teacher in events such as extreme weather.
- Black school shoes (required - generic)

PE Kit

- White polo shirt which may bear the school's logo (required – specific or generic)
- Navy or black shorts (required - generic)
- Navy or black jogging bottoms may be worn in colder weather (optional – generic)
- Black cotton plimsols (required - generic)
- Trainers for outside games (required - generic)

- Swimming costume and towel (required - generic)
- Logoed navy sweatshirt (optional – specific)

Additional Optional School Items Available – please note all of the following are specific but optional

- Navy PE bag
- Fleece with School Badge
- Raincoat with School Badge
- Sun Hat with School Badge
- Winter Hat with School Badge

Jewellery

- We do not encourage children to wear jewellery in school as we believe that the school provides ample other opportunities to express individualism and identity. Any child who has pierced ears may wear sleepers or studs, but we strongly advise that these be removed for PE, games and swimming to avoid the possibility of the item becoming caught and causing an injury to the wearer or another child.

Hair styles

- We ask that all children wear the correct school uniform, as detailed above, and that their hair style is appropriate to the school environment.

Coats and Bags

- Children are expected to bring a coat and bag to school (if required), neither of which need to be branded or to include the school logo.

4.2 Where to purchase school uniform

Our logoed school uniform can be purchased from:

Southwest Schoolwear, 10 Wine Street, Yeovil, BA20 1PW

Our Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) have second-hand uniform which is available to buy throughout the year. Parents are encouraged to contact either the PTFA Chair or the school office.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (other than on 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 expected to contact Mr Gordon through the school office 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 Head Teacher if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the school's Head Teacher.

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
- 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 every 2 years by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by a member of the Local Governing Body.