

Barons Court Primary School and Nursery

SCHOOL UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE POLICY



Responsible members of Staff

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This Policy was approved by the Governors – January 2026

“Barons Court Primary School and Nursery is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff, governors and volunteers to share this commitment.”

Introduction

At Barons Court, we believe that a school uniform is important in building the pupils' sense of identity and belonging to the community of our school. It is our policy that all children will wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours and our policy reflects the current DfE guidance on School Uniforms – November 2025.

School uniform instils a sense of pride in our school and supports positive behaviour. It is one of the symbols of the ethos of the school and protects children from social pressures whatever their race, religion, gender or background. All children will wear school uniform and we encourage them to maintain an acceptable standard of clean and tidy dress in school, however it is important to note that as an outdoor learning school, uniform may get dirty and as a school we are sensitive to this.

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.

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

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. At Barons Court 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:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kits to a maximum of 3 or fewer items.
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary and limiting these items where possible to a school polo shirt and jumper/cardigan. We will only ask that school uniform featuring a school logo to be worn if a child is representing our school at a school event.
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils can wear on non-school days.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year and phase groups.

- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama.
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items through our pre-loved uniform shop and publishing this information on our website.
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning branded items such as sports kits for competitions.
- 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.
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, unless for branded items, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers.
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money.

Expectations for our school community

Parents

We ask that all parents who send their children to our school support the school uniform and appearance policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents should ensure that your child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. **Parents should label all items of clothing clearly with their child's name.**

The school welcomes discussions with parents, parents are encouraged to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to their child's uniform in relation to their child's protected characteristics of the cost of uniform. If a parent wishes to raise concerns relating to our school uniform they are encouraged to do this in a timely and reasonable manner and the school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) whilst they are on the school premises, travelling to and from school and at out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required).

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 the Deputy Headteacher. 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 in partnership with families.

Expectations for School Uniform

The following information identifies specific items of uniform:

Nursery Uniform

<u>Nursery Uniform</u>
Dark trousers or skirt (Black/Blue/Grey – no jeans) Red polo shirt Red sweatshirt with the school logo or plain red sweatshirt or cardigan Dark or white plain socks or long dark plain tights Dark, waterproof enclosed shoes or trainers

Reception – Year 6 Uniform

<u>Uniform</u>
Dark trousers or skirt (Black/Blue/Grey – no jeans) White polo shirt with or without the school logo Red sweatshirt/cardigan with the school logo or plain red sweatshirt/cardigan School Fleece (optional) Dark, plain socks or dark plain tights

During the summer months summer dresses can be worn, these should be a red and white check gingham style dress. Open-toed sandals, shoes with raised heels, clogs, crocs or mules should not be worn. These are not suitable for school especially at play times. Tailored, plain dark shorts can also be worn in the summer and parents should aim for these to be knee length. When representing the school during out of hours activities such as music festivals, competitions etc... All children **must** wear black trousers or skirts, a white polo shirt with the school logo and a red school sweatshirt with the school logo. These can be borrowed from the school office. Children must also wear plain dark socks or tights when representing the school.

Outdoor Clothing and Footwear

Children will bring a waterproof, hooded coat to school each day, apart from during the hotter weather. The school actively promotes outdoor learning and would encourage parents to provide a pair of wellington boots and waterproof coat for their child to be kept at school for outdoor activities.

P.E. Kits

P.E. is an important part of school life, assisting with the general health and well-being of our pupils. For health and safety reasons, it is essential that children are dressed appropriately for any physical activity. Appropriate footwear is essential: trainers or plimsolls will be worn for outdoor physical activity and bare feet for gymnastics. Children should arrive in school on their allocated P.E. day wearing the correct kit. All items of P.E. clothing must be identified with the child's name. Children, when representing our school, will borrow the school's team kit. Our P.E. kit within school is:

(Reception-Year 6)

<u>Winter PE Kit</u>	<u>Summer PE Kit</u>
Dark jogging bottoms Coloured t-shirt of your child's house Red sweatshirt with the school logo or plain red sweatshirt	Dark shorts/ sport skirt Coloured t-shirt of your child's house Red sweatshirt with the school logo or plain red sweatshirt

Swimming

When swimming at school children will need a towel, swimming trunks (or shorts) or a one-piece swimming costume, swimming cap and brush or comb, carried in a waterproof bag.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears and a watch. Children will need to have all earrings removed before participating in P.E. The school advises parents to ensure any piercing of ears is carried out early during the summer holidays to provide a suitable period of time, before school commences, so that earrings can be removed for P.E. by their child. If there are specific matters concerning removal of jewellery for P.E., parents are requested to discuss this matter with the homegroup teacher.

Fashion Items/Other

Children come to school to learn. We believe that fashion items are best kept for home for reasons such as health and safety and inclusion. Fashion accessories such as make-up, nail varnish, jewellery, other than stud earrings and watches should not be worn. Appropriate sun hats should be worn outside during sunny weather, rather than bandanas.

Accessibility to school uniform

As a school we have ensured that the statutory guidance issued on the cost of school uniform is complied with. Our school recognises the need to ensure that our uniform is affordable and we will work with the local uniform provider to ensure our uniform is well publicised. Our fundraising committee also run a monthly pre-loved uniform store within the school on the last Friday of each month to ensure that our school uniform is widely available. Parents are encouraged to donate school uniform items that their children have grown out of that are still in good condition.

