



Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School
WE BELIEVE, WE NURTURE, WE SUCCEED!

School Uniform

Policy

Statement of Intent

Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School is committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background. This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart. Additionally, it is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging to our school. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy also has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2024) 'School Uniform'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Home-School Agreement
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Head Teacher and school community, establishing a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Taking appropriate and consistent action when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to establish school identity.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Head Teacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Head Teacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging.

Cost and Availability

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School ensures that the School Uniform Policy does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child. The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers. The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible.

Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible. The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements. The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms. Where changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

School uniform which has the school logo on can only be purchased via Barkisland School. However, it is not compulsory for pupils to wear branded uniform. Plain polo t-shirts, jumpers, cardigans and hoodies bought from other suppliers e.g. supermarkets, may be worn in the specified uniform colour.

Second-hand uniform

The school has made sure that there are arrangements in place for the purchase of second-hand uniform. Once a term, parents of the school are encouraged to donate any unwanted uniform and uniform is available for parents to take. These events may typically take place during the last week of school as follows:

Autumn 2

Spring 2

Summer 2 – usually at the summer fair and Sports days

In addition, the school works closely with our parent group, Barkisland School Association, to arrange for other times during the year to have second-hand uniform available. The above information will be included in the school newsletter as a reminder to parents.

Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community. Barkisland CE (VA) Primary School endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible. Please make an appointment with the Headteacher / Deputy Headteacher to discuss make any requests for Ceremonial wear to be worn in school.

Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by case basis by the Head Teacher and Governing Board. This is always conducted in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

Equality

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

Complaints and Challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy. To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined. When a complaint is received, the school works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

Non-Compliance

On rare occasions, for example, if slogans on clothing are offensive, the Head Teacher and/or Deputy Head Teacher are permitted to ask a pupil to take off the clothing, such as a sweatshirt / jumper. In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.

On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person.

Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform.

Sanctions for breaches of this policy are a last resort: the school endeavours to work with families to resolve breaches of this policy in a timely manner.

Our Uniform

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

The uniform comprises of:

- Grey trousers or skirt (of an appropriate length) or pinafore, navy sweatshirt or cardigan and pale blue shirt/polo shirt.
- Grey or black shorts may be worn in the summer months.
- A dark or light blue school dress may be worn in the summer term and early September

Navy blue sweatshirts /cardigans and pale blue polo shirts, embroidered with the school coat of arms may be ordered from school. Plain polo shirts, sweatshirts and cardigans can also be worn as part of the school uniform.

Nursery children are encouraged to wear the top half of our uniform i.e. blue polo and navy jumper/cardigan with dark coloured joggers / leggings.

Children should wear sensible flat shoes in black, trainers are not permitted.

Boots may be worn during winter months and must be dark in colour.

PE Kit

Children are allowed to come in their PE kit on the days that they have PE

Indoor PE

- Children should wear navy blue or black shorts and a pale blue T-shirt, available from the school as well as many of the major supermarkets, and plimsolls.

Outdoor games

- Children should wear navy blue or black shorts, pale blue T-shirt and trainers.
- School hoodies are also available for outdoor PE and are available to buy on School Money
- In colder weather, a sweatshirt and jogging bottoms in black or blue are advisable.

School Bag

Pupils are to use a school book bag which can be purchased via the office or on School Money. Large bags / large rucksacks are discouraged for day-to-day lessons due to space on children's pegs.

Water Bottle

On joining our school, children receive a free water bottle. All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children whenever necessary during the day. Bottles can be purchased via the school. Only water is permitted inside the bottle. It is advisable to label the water bottles.

Hair Styles, Hats & Make-up

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Where hair is able to be tied up, it must be. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted. Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds. The Head Teacher will take each individual pupil's scenario into consideration.

Hair extensions are not permitted. At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss / illness etc.

Hats are allowed to be worn outside but should not be worn inside the school building.

Make-up, false nails and nail extensions are not permitted. Children are not allowed to wear make-up. Pupils wearing make-up are required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it. At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

Please Note:

- If hair is long enough it must be tied back. Any hair accessories must be in line with the school colours and kept to a minimum.

- Stud earrings only may be worn for school, no other jewellery, although a watch is permitted. This is to ensure the safety of all children.
- Nail varnish is not permitted to be worn in school.
- Earrings must be removed by the child before PE lessons. (For Health and Safety reasons adults are not permitted to remove earrings from children.)
- Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

Adverse Weather

Hot Weather

Everyone working at/attending the school during hot weather conditions is required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible.

This includes wearing:

- Loose fitting tops with collars or covered necklines
- Tops that cover the shoulder area
- Grey or black shorts or pale blue and white summer dresses of an appropriate length (if families wish to)
- Sun-safe hats
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunscreen (children must be able to apply this themselves and it must be labelled and handed to the child's class teacher)

Cold Weather

During cold weather, pupils are required to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside. Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted. Where possible, pupils not wearing warm clothing are provided with spare clothing if going outside during break and lunch times.

Labelling

School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated spaces for children to keep belongings in and checking of labels. However, all pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name. Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher. Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box kept outside the Year 5 classroom. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

Non-Uniform Days

Throughout the year, the school has a number of non-uniform days. Each day has a specific focus e.g. red nose day, world book day. Parents are informed in plenty of time via text, newsletter and the website which will contain information in relation to the focus of the day.

On non-uniform days children should wear appropriate clothing for a day in school i.e. no crop tops, heels, no restrictive clothing, no offensive slogans etc