

St. Andrew's Primary School

School Uniform Policy



**Headteacher: Mrs N. James
Chair of Governors: Mr J Waine**

**Date: January 2024
Date for review: January 2026**

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our school website.

<https://standrewspri8402705.wp-sch.durham.gov.uk/parents/our-school-uniform/>

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- sets an appropriate tone for education;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes or extreme hairstyles might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money (School Branding is optional), by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

Jewellery and Make-up

The wearing of jewellery is not permitted.

If a child has his or her ear(s) pierced, **small studs** may be worn until the ears have healed (6 weeks). **It is therefore recommended that if a parent wishes their child to have this procedure done, it is completed at the start of the summer holidays, so that ears have healed in time for the start of the new school year.** After this 6-week period, pupils will be asked to remove their earrings if they are worn to school. Consideration will be made for jewellery in exceptional circumstances, such as, jewellery relating to cultural, religious beliefs or for medical reasons.

We ask for this because of health and safety reasons. Children are active throughout the day, not just in PE lessons, and jewellery can easily be caught on the clothing of another child potentially causing injury to ear lobes, necks etc. So we strongly advise parents to take this seriously to avoid any harm to their child.

The wearing of any make-up, false nails and nail varnish **is not allowed**.

Extreme hairstyles

The school actively discourages children to have extreme hairstyles that could serve as a distraction to other children. This includes dyed hair and shapes shaved into the hair or Mohican-style haircuts. Hair bands, bobbles, bows and accessories must be white or blue.

Footwear

We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes or boots that have platform soles or high heels. We require all children to wear black footwear as stated in the uniform list. The only exception to this is during inclement weather conditions, when it may be more appropriate to wear boots or wellies.

School Bags

Children in Nursery should bring a small rucksack type bag which contains any spare clothing they may need in the case of toileting accidents, getting wet during water play or from playing out in wet weather.

When children start reception, they will be given a free book bag, for them to carry their reading books, reading logs and any other communications between home and school. This should be brought to school every day.

As children get older, they may want to change to a rucksack style school bag or keep their book bag. Children must have something in which they can carry their reading and library books and their reading record every day.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform 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 their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to discuss the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the governing body will:

- seek the views of parents, to be sure that they support the policy;
- consider with the headteacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
- require the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.