

Caroline Haslett Primary School & Faraday Club



School Uniform Policy

Date of Issue: June 2024

Date of next review: June 2025 (or earlier in the event of legislation changes)

Approved by the Headteacher on: _____

Signed: _____ (Headteacher) Date: _____

Approved by the Governing Board on: _____

Signed: _____ (Chair of Governors) Date: _____

Introduction

It is an expectation that all children attending Caroline Haslett (CHPS) School will wear the approved school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We expect our children to take pride in their school and this is reflected in the way they dress for school.

The school will act fairly and reasonably, taking into consideration the Government guidance, making school uniform affordable for all.

- Branded items are limited. Please be aware we only require the school jumper or cardigan and the PE T-shirt to be branded with our logo (see Expectations for school uniform)
- For generic items e.g. polo shirts, trousers, skirts, socks, shoes etc. colours and styles will be stipulated but these can be purchased from any supplier the parent chooses. (See Expectations for school uniform)
- Branded school uniform items are machine washable.
- CHPS will clearly state the items that are required and which are optional. (See Expectations for school uniform)
- CHPS provides pre-loved uniform at our 'Uniform Exchange' where families can exchange uniform for a different size or pick up uniform for a small donation.

CHPS will provide information of all the items needed, on the school website, at information evenings and in letters to parents. (See Expectations for school uniform)

Aims

CHPS's policy on uniform is based on the principles that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school, in line with the school's ethos, values and beliefs.
- Creates a sense of 'community' and 'belonging' to the school.
- Supports positive behaviour and discipline.
- Is practical, comfortable and smart.
- Identifies pupils with the school and encourages identification with the school.
- Prevents pupils coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition.
- Makes pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and helps nurture cohesion between different groups of pupils.
- Is regarded as suitable for school and is good value for money by most parents.
- Promotes the school's care for the health and safety of its learners.

The Role of Parents and Carers

We ask all parents and carers who send their child to Caroline Haslett Primary School to support our uniform policy. We believe that it is a parent and carer's duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents and carers is to ensure that their child has the correct school uniform and that it is clean, clearly labelled with the child's name, and in good condition.

Parents are also expected to contact the headteacher in writing via schooloffice@carolinehaslett.milton-keynes.sch.uk if they wish 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

The Role of the Governing Board

The Governing Board supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It will consider all representations from parents and carers regarding the uniform policy and will liaise with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

Physical Education (PE) Ready

All PE lessons are timetabled and this information will be communicated to parents. Pupils are required to wear the correct PE kit to school on the days that they have PE lessons. This ensures the children receive full PE lessons as no time is lost whilst the children change and it also reduces the potential for uniform to be lost.

Jewellery

On the grounds of health and safety, pupils should not wear any jewellery in our school. Rings, earrings, necklaces and bracelets are not part of school uniform, and should not be worn. The exceptions to this rule are small earring studs in pierced ears which must be removed for all physical education activities to prevent them from causing injury. If earrings cannot be removed, they must be taped over. The child must be able to remove their own earrings or tape over their earring when necessary.

Makeup and Nail Varnish

Makeup and nail varnish must not be worn by pupils whilst at school.

Extreme Haircuts and Long Hair

The school does not permit the children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Long hair should be tied back during the school day and must always be tied back during all PE activities.

Hair accessories may be worn if they are functional and not for the purpose of fashion. These should be plain in colour, small in size and preferably in line with the school's uniform colours.

Outdoor Clothing

Hoodies, sports jackets or tracksuit tops are not acceptable for school and only formal outdoor coats should be worn over school uniform. Under no circumstances should a child be wearing a hoodie in place of their school logoed sweatshirt or logoed cardigan. Children should bring a suitable outdoor coat into school each day.

Please note, that the children will still go outside for break time, lunchtime, and outdoor PE lessons will continue if there is light rain or showers, so it is advisable that you send your child in with a waterproof jacket.

In colder weather, children can choose to wear a hat and gloves, but we asked that these are also named. These must be removed when back inside the school.

Medical Dispensations

The policy will meet the needs of individual pupils with temporary or permanent medical conditions. For example, learners with some skin conditions may be unable to wear specific fabrics and learners with foot or leg injuries may be unable to wear school shoes. An official medical certificate will be required for any pupil requiring long term dispensation due to medical conditions. Parents and carers must arrange a meeting with the school to discuss any changes required due to medical conditions.

Lost Property

All items of clothing must be named including coats, shoes and trainers. This ensures lost items can be returned to their owner.

Mobile Phones

Mobile phones are permitted in school, at the owner's risk, but they must always be switched off when on school grounds and given to the class teacher in the morning for safekeeping. The school accepts no responsibility for the loss or damage of mobile phones under any circumstances.

Non-Uniform Day Clothing

The school has several non-uniform days throughout the year in order to raise money for charity. Pupils will have the opportunity to wear their own choice of clothes to school on these days and while it is expected the dress would be more casual, the clothing should still be suitable for a place of work and the timetabled activities for the day. The normal school uniform rule on jewellery and makeup still applies on a non-uniform day.

The CHPS 'Uniform Exchange'

We know that children grow every quickly and buying brand new uniform can be an additional expense for families. For this reason, we hold our 'CHPS Uniform Exchange' run by our FRIENDS of Caroline Haslett, where families can pick up pre-loved uniform for a small donation or exchange a uniform item for a different size if it is available.

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
- 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 most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear head coverings for religious reasons

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.

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 any items with distinctive characteristics such as the logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics e.g. PE kit to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year 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

Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform

- School branded sweat shirts, cardigans
- Black or grey trousers, shorts, skirts, pinafores, and socks; white polo shirts, blue gingham dresses, Black shoes/sandals/boots (NOT trainers) on non-PE days. Sandals must have a back strap for ankle support.

Expectations for PE and swimming kit

- Plain black shorts (no sports logos)
- Black/blue/grey tracksuit bottoms (no sports logos)
- Blue t-shirt with school logo (optional) or plain blue t-shirt (no sports logos)
- Black/blue/grey zipped hoodies
- Trainers (EYFS plimsolls)
- Black leggings under plain black shorts
- One-piece swimming costume
- Trunks (above knee length)

Where to purchase it

Branded uniform (sweat shirts, cardigans, PE shirts and book bags) can be purchased from the school via Parent Mail (While stock lasts). From September 2023 our main uniform supplier is Maisies, Wolverton. All other uniform items can be purchased from other outlets.

Information about second-hand uniform:

Our FRIENDS of Caroline Haslett (PTA) arrange a second-hand uniform sale

Expectations for our school

community 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)

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 a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

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.

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 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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Board on an annual basis (although amendments prior to this may occur.) The school reserves the right to make changes to the school uniform. Parents will be given a term's notice of any changes.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- > Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statement
- > Behaviour for learning policy
- > Complaints policy