



CAVERSHAM PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Uniform Policy

Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours, if appropriate. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform is provided in our welcome pack and on the school website.

Rationale

According to School Uniform Guidance for Governing Bodies (updated DfE guidance 2024), it is the governing board of a school to decide:

- Rules around appearance
- Whether there should be a school uniform policy and if so, what it should be
- How the uniform should be sourced

Governing boards must ensure that uniform policies are reasonable, proportionate, and do not place an unnecessary financial burden on families.

These duties are placed upon governing boards by statute to ensure that school policies promote good behaviour and discipline amongst the pupil body.

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that the wearing of school uniform:

- promotes the ethos of the school
- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a sense of community and belonging
- identifies the children with the school
- protects children when off site
- ensures inclusivity and equality
- is practical, safe, and smart and
- is affordable, with consideration given to cost, availability, and value for money in line with statutory guidance.

Affordability and Value for Money

In line with statutory guidance, Caversham Park Primary School will:

- Limit the number of branded items required
- Ensure that parents can purchase uniform items from a range of retailers, including supermarkets
- Avoid exclusive supplier arrangements unless regular value-for-money assessments are undertaken
- Provide access to second-hand uniform through school schemes

Caversham Park Primary School is committed to ensuring that no pupil is disadvantaged due to the cost of uniform.

Equality and Discrimination Considerations

This policy is designed to ensure that all individuals and groups receive equal access and opportunities to develop and learn.

Caversham Park Primary School fully complies with the Equality Act 2010 and will make reasonable adjustments to accommodate pupils' needs, including those relating to:

- Disability (including sensory needs)
- Religion or belief
- Gender identity
- Cultural background

No pupil will be treated less favourably due to their inability to comply with uniform requirements for protected reasons.

School Uniform List

The school has a school uniform as detailed below:

Winter School Uniform

- Grey or navy blue tailored trousers, *no leggings or fashion trousers*
- Navy blue knee length skirt or pinafore dress
- Pale blue polo shirt (preferably with the school logo)
- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (preferably with the school logo)
- Grey, navy or white socks or navy blue tights
- Flat Black shoes (**no** trainers—they may only be worn at lunchtimes)

Additional Items of Summer School Uniform (optional)

- Grey or navy blue tailored shorts, *no leggings or fashion shorts*
- Pale blue/white gingham dress / skorts

PE Uniform / Kit

This is necessary to ensure safety and to promote hygiene.

- Pale blue PE shirt (preferably with the school logo)
- Navy blue shorts
- Black elasticated pumps (Reception / KS1) Trainers (KS2)
- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms with school sweatshirts for cold winter weather (no logoed or hooded sweatshirts)

Children need to keep their P.E. Kit in school **all week**. This should be kept in a **named** bag on their peg in the cloakroom.

All items of school uniform, including PE kit, should be identified with the child's name.

Parents / carers may purchase generic items where possible to reduce costs.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are one pair of small plain gold or silver coloured earring studs in pierced ears, compulsory objects of religious significance, or a medical alert bracelet or chain. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games, or cover earrings with a plaster (provided by their parents), to prevent them from causing injury.

Children may wear watches (no smart watches permitted) but the school does not take responsibility for any damage to or for the loss of watches. Watches must be taken off for PE and given to the class teacher for safe keeping. The wearing of bracelets (including charity wrist bands) is not permitted.

Hairstyles and Accessories

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts, e.g. colour (unless for specific school occasions), mohicans, or shaved designs, which could be a distraction to other children or put pressure on families to follow the latest styles.

Extreme hair fashion accessories are also discouraged including the excess use of hair gel. Hairbands should be plain and either blue or brown. Hairbands with large bows or other forms of decoration are not to be worn in school. Similarly, scrunchies should be plain.

All children are requested to tie hair up where it is long, especially during sporting or physical activities.

The school recognises the need to respect cultural and racial identity, including natural hairstyles and protective styles (e.g. braids, afros). These are permitted.

Cosmetics

The school does not allow children to wear nail varnish, cosmetics or fake tattoos. Children will be reminded and asked to remove this by the next school day.

Religious / cultural observation cosmetics (for example henna patterns) are only allowed at the times of festivals.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels or open toes, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list.

If weather conditions make it necessary for boots to be worn to school, a pair of school shoes should be brought in to change into. Boots must not be worn in school during the day.

Swimming

Children who go swimming, as part of the PE curriculum in school need a towel and swimming trunks or costume. These should be brought into school in a separate waterproof bag.

The school uniform safety code for swimming is set out below:

- No earrings to be worn in the pool
- No watches to be taken to the pool
- Long hair must be tied back or worn up in a swimming hat

Other Types of Clothing

Children may need to bring or wear appropriate clothing to school for activities that are outside of the normal classroom activities. Class teachers will advise on this when necessary.

The Role of Parents/Carers

We ask all parents/carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed in uniform that is clean and in good repair, ready for their daily schoolwork.

If any parent/carer would like the school to modify 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 on religious grounds, 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 / carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher.

Where families experience financial hardship, they are encouraged to contact the school confidentially for support.

Complaints and Challenges

Concerns about affordability will be treated seriously and reviewed promptly in line with DfE expectations. Complaints about our school uniform should be pursued in accordance with the school's complaints procedure.

Procedures for Non-Compliance with the Uniform Policy

There may be good reasons why a child is not wearing school uniform. In this case, parents / carers should share the reasons with the Headteacher either in person or by letter. The Headteacher will then agree a suitable alternative uniform item with the parent and indicate the length of time that this will suffice.

If a child deliberately persists in not wearing the agreed uniform or alter their appearance in a particular unacceptable way, the Headteacher will inform the parents / carers and share the reasons why we have a policy in place and explain the "unfairness" of allowing a few children to not wear the uniform or arrive in school in an unacceptable way. Sanctions for non-compliance will be reasonable, proportionate, and will not disproportionately affect disadvantaged pupils.

The Role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy.

Policy Date	Review Date
July 2026	July 2027