

School Uniform Policy



Person Responsible for Policy:
Claire McKinney (Head Teacher)

Date of Adoption by Governing Body:
Summer 2026

Date of next review:
Summer 2027

It is our policy that all children wear school uniforms when attending school, or when participating in events outside of school. At Richard Avenue Primary School, we believe uniform plays an important role in our school's ethos and gives children pride in their personal appearance.

Research shows that uniform helps to promote a sense of pride in the school, it helps children to feel part of a community and it supports academic progress. At Richard Avenue Primary we are committed to equality and feel that this is promoted by the wearing of school uniform.

In line with Department for Education (DfE) statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms, we are committed to ensuring uniforms are affordable, practical, and offer high value for money for all families. We keep compulsory branded items strictly to a minimum, ensuring cost is never a barrier to school life or participation in activities. We also believe that school uniforms are practical and designed with health and safety in mind.

Aims and objectives

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- supports positive behaviour
- is practical, smart, comfortable, and affordable for families
- identifies the children with the school, and encourages identity with the school
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- prevents children coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition
- is regarded as suitable, accessible and good value for money, by most parents.

Our uniform consists of:

To ensure flexibility and affordability, parents may purchase generic, unbranded items from high street shops or supermarkets.

- red sweatshirt or cardigan (Optional branded item with school logo available, or plain red)
- grey or black trousers, skirt or pinafore
- white polo shirt
- black shoes (no logos). School shoes should be flat and sensible. Fashion footwear, if only for safety, is unsuitable. If boots are worn these should also be plain black. Parents should ensure that their child wears shoes that they can take on and off independently.
- red and white check dress
- grey shorts

PE kit

- white or red t-shirt or polo shirt
- plain black shorts (no logos or brand name)
- plain black joggers (no logos or brand name)
- red hoodie or jumper (no logos or brand name required)
- Trainers

Swimming kit (KS2)

A swimming kit should be brought into school in a labelled bag on the day when a child goes swimming. Swimming lessons are usually attended by children in Y3, Y4, Y5 and Y6, but may occasionally be attended by children in other year groups. You will be notified when your child is due to attend swimming lessons so that you have time to ensure they have the correct kit.

The swimming kit consists of:

- Above the knee swimming trunks/shorts
- One-piece swimming costume (no bikinis)
- Towel
- Hairbrush or comb
- Goggles (optional)
- Plain swimming hats, as appropriate

Statutory limits on branded items

Under statutory DfE guidance, primary schools must limit compulsory branded uniform items (items carrying the school logo or specific branded design) to 3 or fewer across both main uniform and PE kits.

At Richard Avenue Primary School:

1. Compulsory branded items: no individual item of uniform or PE kit is strictly compulsory to be purchased as a branded item; plain alternatives in school colours are fully acceptable.
2. Optional branded items: optional logo-bearing items (such as red logo sweatshirts/cardigans or logo book bags) may be purchased from our uniform supplier, but are not mandatory.

Preloved uniform provision

To support affordability and environmental sustainability, the school ensures that opportunities to acquire pre-loved, second-hand uniform items are freely accessible to all parents and carers:

- Preloved uniform sales and donations are coordinated regularly by the school.
- Information on how to access second-hand uniforms is available on the school website or by contacting the school office directly.

School Bags

Red school reading book bags or small school rucksacks, available from the uniform supplier or high street retailers, can be used by pupils.

Extreme weather

Children should dress appropriately for extreme weather conditions. In the summer it is vital that children have a protective sun hat or cap. Sun cream should be applied to children before they arrive at school on hot summer days. Boots and sufficiently warm waterproof coats should be provided in extremely wet or snowy weather.

As outdoor play is a vital part of the Early Years curriculum, the children in Nursery and Reception should be dressed appropriately for all kinds of weather so it is important to provide an appropriate raincoat for wet and cold days. Hats, gloves and wellington boots would also be items of clothing that we recommend could be provided for the children.

Lost property

In order to return lost property, all uniforms, including shoes, PE uniform, swimming kit and personal items should be clearly labelled or marked with the child's full name. The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost items.

Protecting uniform

From time to time, as part of the curriculum, your child may use messy equipment which could mark their uniform. Where this is the case, we will provide aprons where possible or ask you to send in an old t-shirt or shirt which your child can wear over their uniform for the duration of those lessons.

Further information regarding school uniform

For health and safety reasons children should not wear jewellery unless it is of a small object of religious significance. If you wish to have your child's ears pierced, please do this at the start of the summer holiday to ensure they can take them out for school in September.

Watches may be worn to tell the time but smart watches that have multiple functions and are either linked to a mobile service or take a photograph are not to be worn for school.

It is not appropriate for children to come to school with multiple hair colours, decorative patterns such as tramlines shaved into their heads. Children should also keep styling products to a minimum if they use them at all. It attracts unwanted attention and can sometimes distract from the children's learning. Parents will be contacted if a child arrives at school with what is deemed to be an 'inappropriate' hair style.

Long hair should be tied back at all times and especially for PE. We would appreciate it if hair accessories were kept to a sensible size and school colours; without large bows or flowers.

Children should not wear any nail varnish or make up and will be asked to remove them if either is worn to school.

When children are of an appropriate age to wear head scarves, they must be plain red or black in colour.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the school in implementing the uniform policy. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equality, affordability, and statutory DfE guidance. They also ensure that the uniform policy is practical and enables children to dress appropriately for learning.

If there are changes to the uniform policy governors will consult with parents to ensure they agree with and support the policy. Governors

will also ensure supply contracts offer high value for money and avoid unnecessary single-supplier arrangements. They will also work with the head of school to consider any requests from parents for individual children to have special arrangements for uniforms.

The role of families

Richard Avenue Primary School believes it is the responsibility of families to ensure their child has the correct uniform for the school day that it is clean, in good repair and has their child's name written on all items. If families experience difficulty with uniform, they can speak in confidence to a member of staff who will help to resolve the issue and be assured that the school will do everything they can to support the family.

If children are wearing non-school items for school or PE they will be provided with a clean item from school stock to wear for either the day or the PE lesson. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter and to offer support.

Richard Avenue Primary School welcomes all children. If there are requests on religious grounds or SEND sensory needs these will be considered sympathetically and individually. Parents should in the first instance discuss any requests for uniform adaptation with the head teacher.

Where can I purchase a school uniform?

Our school uniform colours allow parents to purchase items from the majority of high street shops and supermarkets. If parents would like to purchase items with the school logo the details are below.

Uniforms bearing the school logo can be purchased at Total Sports either online at [**http://richardavenue.co.uk/**](http://richardavenue.co.uk/) or in person. The store can offer a larger range of sizes upon request. If you require a uniform larger than a size small adult, please select the small adult and leave a note in the comment box requesting the size you want to order.