



Thameside Primary School: Uniform Policy

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Policy reviewed by:	Sophie Greenaway
Key Changes:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• PE kit updated to reflect Inclusive Sportswear Movement• Additional language added to ensure full alignment with latest DfE guidance



1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. 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:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- 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 wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. 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 where possible
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

General uniform

- Maroon sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without school logo)
- Maroon school fleece
- White polo shirt
- Grey school trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafore dresses
- Grey tights or plain white/black/grey socks
- Summer dress – maroon or dark red check patterned dress
- Black sturdy shoes or plain black trainers (without logo, stripes or different coloured laces) should be worn





PE Kit and the Inclusive Sportswear Movement

Following a successful trial and positive parental feedback, Thameside Primary School has formally adopted the [Inclusive Sportswear Movement](#) for PE lessons. This initiative is rooted in the belief that all children should feel comfortable, confident and included when taking part in physical activity - supporting participation, enjoyment, performance, and a sense of belonging in sport.

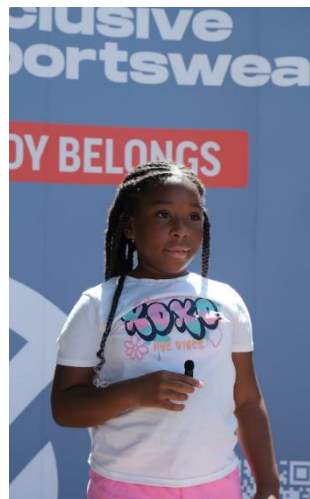
From June 2025, the following guidance applies on PE days:



- Children must bring a change of clothes and suitable footwear in their PE bag that they feel comfortable wearing for sport. They will change into this kit for their PE lesson and change back into full school uniform afterwards.
- Children must still arrive at school in correct uniform and school shoes each day.
- Clothing worn for PE must be appropriate for physical activity and therefore:
 - Football kits are allowed
 - No crop tops or hotpants (clothing should provide appropriate coverage)
 - No restriction on colour, but slogans must be appropriate for a school setting
- Footwear must be suitable for sport - trainers are ideal and astros are allowed. Studded boots are not permitted.
- Long hair must be tied back and earrings must be removed or securely taped.
- Children may choose to wear a typical school PE kit if they prefer, such as a plain white T-shirt and black shorts.
- When representing the school at sporting events, children will wear the full Thameside sports kit provided by school.
- There is no requirement for families to purchase new clothing — children are encouraged to wear any suitable sportswear they already own that aligns with the guidelines above.
- All items must be clearly labelled with the child's first and last name. The school is not responsible for any lost or misplaced items that children have chosen to wear for PE.
- If a child refuses to change back into their school uniform after PE, then parents will be contacted, and the school will work in partnership with the family to address the issue (this may include putting a behaviour support plan in place to help the child understand the school's expectations and routines).

Tess Howard, July 2025

(founder of Inclusive Sportswear Movement)



The school's commitment to the Inclusive Sportswear approach ensures that our PE kit is inclusive, respectful of individual needs and backgrounds, and in line with both DfE and school values.

Y6

Children in Year 6 are permitted to wear a maroon school leavers' hoodie in place of the standard maroon sweatshirt, cardigan, or fleece. These hoodies can be ordered through the school office. During the Summer Term, Year 6 pupils may choose to wear a colourful leavers' hoodie instead of the maroon version.



Jewellery

Jewellery must not be worn in school, although small gold or silver studs are permitted. During PE, stud earrings must be removed or covered with tape if removal is not possible. Pupils are permitted to wear discreet religious or cultural symbols, such as necklaces, headscarves, or items of significance, provided they do not pose a health and safety risk or conflict with the school's safeguarding policies.

Hair

Hairstyles should be appropriate for school. Shaved patterns are not permitted. Long hair must be tied up for PE and to reduce the spread of head lice. Hair bands and accessories should be simple and without large decorations. Make-up and nail varnish should not be worn to school.

Outdoor play and Art

To protect school uniform during outdoor or messy activities, children may bring an oversized T-shirt in a named plastic bag to keep on their peg. Reception and Year 1 children should also bring named welly boots to remain in school.

4.2 Where to purchase school uniform

Items without a school logo can be bought from most high street stores including supermarkets.

School jumpers, cardigans and fleeces with a school logo can be purchased online at [Earth Uniform](#) or via the [My Clothing](#) website.

TSA second hand uniform sales are held regularly.

RG4 Uniform group (<https://www.facebook.com/RG4UniformGroup>) keep a stock of generic and school-specific uniform

Please contact the family hub if you need any support with uniform: familyhub@thameside.reading.sch.uk

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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)



5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Is clearly named
- Clean
- In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their child(ren)'s protected characteristics.

5.3 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 the Headteacher.

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.

5.4 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
- 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed at least every three years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies



This policy is linked to our:

- Relationships & Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy