



# **Banks Lane Infant & Nursery School**

## **School Uniform Policy**

Approved date: January 2025

Review date: January 2027

## **Statement of intent**

At Banks Lane Infant & Nursery School we believe that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

## 1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy

## 2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Ensuring value for money.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's '[Cost of school uniforms](#)' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to changes to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Establishing appropriate exemptions e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Talking to parents if children are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

### **3. Cost principles**

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the views of parents and children.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

School branded items are not essential at Banks Lane Infant & Nursery School. Alternative navy sweatshirts and white polo shirts can be purchased in high street shops.

### **4. Equality principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes but will

also ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board.

We ensure that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

## **5. Complaints and challenges**

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

## **6. School uniform supplier**

Stitch Design provide a 'Pack and Deliver' service for branded sweatshirt, polo shirts and fleeces:

Stitch Design Ltd, Thomas House, Station Hill, Overton, Hampshire RG25 3JH

Tel 01256 771999

Fax 01256 771170

Email [online@stitchdesign.co.uk](mailto:online@stitchdesign.co.uk)

[www.stitchdesign.co.uk](http://www.stitchdesign.co.uk)

School does not have a formal agreement with Stitch Design and branded uniforms are optional.

## **7. Uniform assistance**

Second hand uniform items are available and can be requested via the online form in the parent area of the school website.

Any parents or carers experiencing difficulty with providing school uniform should arrange to speak with the school's Pastoral Manager.

## **8. Non-compliance**

Staff members are permitted to speak with parents and pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

## **9. School uniform**

The school uniform is as follows:

Children should wear grey trousers/skirt/ pinafore dress, a white polo shirt and a navy jumper/ sweatshirt/cardigan.

Branded items, including sweatshirts, polo shirts and fleeces for colder weather are available from Stitch Design.

In the summer months blue gingham dresses and short trousers can be worn.

Smart black training shoes (preferably with Velcro fastenings) should be worn with grey/white socks or grey/navy tights.

Please bear in mind that children are expected to be active at playtime when considering footwear. Trainers and boots are not considered suitable footwear.

We ask parents to provide a simple PE kit (navy or black shorts, white T-shirt and black pumps with elastic/velcro fronts) for which a drawstring bag is required. A spare set of underwear in case of accidents should also be kept in the bag.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

We ask that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with the child's name and class.

### **Jewellery**

Jewellery is not permitted in school. Jewellery, including earrings should be removed at home prior to the start of the school day. Any cultural or religious needs or perspectives are weighed against any health and safety concerns.

### **Book bag**

Pupils must have an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books. It should hold A4-sized work books comfortably without causing any damage.

### **Water Bottles**

Children should bring a named water bottle into school.

Book bags and water bottles with the school logo and PE bags are available from school and can be ordered via our Scopay App.

### **Hairstyles**

We ask that parents are mindful of the school intentions to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, when considering hairstyles. Please avoid extreme hairstyles.

## **10. Adverse weather**

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Loose-fitting and lightweight items, sun hats and covered necklines.
- Tops that cover the shoulder area.

Pupils are advised not to wear jumpers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.
- Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

## **11. Labelling**

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is stored in class lost property boxes and will be retained for one term.

## **12. Monitoring and review**

This policy is reviewed every two years by the Chair of Governors and the Headteacher.

The scheduled review date for this policy is March 2

