Bishop David Sheppard
CE Primary School

Following Jesus, together we succeed

# Uniform Policy

Date: November 2024

Renewal Date: November 2026

## Vision Statement

Our school community members are made in the image of God and we embrace their uniqueness. We have high expectations for our children to fulfil the promise of enjoying 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10) through experiencing high quality social, moral, physical and spiritual education.
We are committed to providing children with enriching opportunities to prepare them for the next stage of their education and life. All children are supported to overcome potential barriers so that they flourish and succeed. Together, we work to inspire our children to be the best they can be.
We aim to create resilient individuals who can contribute to their communities and take their place in the world as global citizens.

***Following Jesus, together we succeed***

This policy has been adopted with the approval of the Governing Body. It will be renewed on a regular basis. This policy reflects the ethos of the articles agreed at the U.N. convention on the Rights of the Child.

Bishop David Sheppard is an inclusive school, which recognises a child's right to a broad, balanced, relevant and challenging curriculum, appropriate to their individual abilities, talents and personal qualities. We aim to make equality of opportunity a reality through consistent implementation of inclusivity by all staff, who work towards identifying and eliminating the barriers to a successful, accessible education for all our children.

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## 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 or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- 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 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 Siobhan Bayliff, 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 for example, by only asking that the jumper, worn over the shirt, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties

- 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/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

We have a uniform at Bishop David Sheppard, because we feel that it encourages the children to develop a sense of belonging and a sense of pride in their school.

**Uniform for Buttons and Nursery**

**Buttons**

Black jogger pants or leggings
Black sweatshirt with school badge
Red polo shirt
Black shoes or trainers

**Nursery**

Black jogger pants/ school trousers/ leggings/pinafore
School jumper or cardigan with badge
White polo shirt
Black shoes or trainers

**School Uniform for Reception to Year 6**

**Winter uniform**

Grey trousers/kilt
White shirt/blouse
School Tie

Black jumper or cardigan with school badge
Grey socks/black tights
Black shoes

**Summer Uniform**

Short grey trousers/red and white check dress
White polo shirt
Black jumper or cardigan with school badge
Grey or white socks
Black shoes

**PE Kit**

White T shirt
Black shorts
Black pumps

Plain black tracksuit bottoms may be worn outside in cold weather
Trainers may be worn for outside PE

**Swimming**

Key Stage 2 children will have the opportunity during the year to attend swimming lessons. They will require swimsuits (no bikinis or shorts), a bathing cap and a towel.

***All items of clothing must be clearly labelled with your child's name***

**Jewellery**

In the interest of safety, no child is to wear jewellery except for watches and plain stud earrings. However, no jewellery whatsoever is permitted for PE and swimming lessons.

Ear piercing should not be arranged during the school term.

**Hair**

Children are encouraged to wear their hair in a suitable manner for school.

Uniform can be purchased from Whittakers or Zips and Snips in Southport town centre. There is a monthly second hand uniform sale.

## 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:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Siobhan Bayliff if they want 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.

### 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 Siobhan Bayliff/Lynne Sutton

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
- Takes into account 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.

## 6. Monitoring arrangements

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

## 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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