Sedlescombe Church of England Primary School

School Uniform Policy 2025-2027

Implemented	September 2025
Review Cycle	Every Two Years
Review Date	September 2027

DIOCESE OF CHICHESTER ACADEMY TRUST

Sedlescombe Church of England Primary School

Vision and Values

Motto:

Learning, Loving and Growing Together with God

Values:

Aspiration	Honesty	Forgiveness
Courage	Thankfulness	Kindness

Vision:

Our school is a family where curiosity is the seed of all growth, and everyone is nurtured and challenged to learn and grow as a unique individual. Where enquiring minds are developed in a safe, loving environment where everyone belongs and is loved by God.

"I can do everything through Him who gives me strength"
Philippians 4:13

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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 a way that is appropriate for school
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mrs Harvey (Headteacher) or Mrs. Oakley (Inclusion Lead) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 must 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, only asking that the school jumper has the school logo – polo shirts / shirts underneath do not need to have the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, if this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling 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 minimizing the financial impact on parents of any changes

4. Expectations for School Uniform

4.1 Our School's Uniform

All children in the school, including in EYFS, wear the school uniform. This uniform promotes a sense of pride in the school and engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school.

Jumpers with our school's logo can be purchased from Superstitch 86 in Hastings (uniform details can also be found on the website under the Parents tab Uniform. The remainder of our school uniform can be purchased in local high street shops and supermarkets. If you require support to purchase items of uniform, please contact the school office by telephone or email.

All items of clothing must be marked with the child's name to enable us to return items handed in to Lost Property to their original owner. The school does not accept responsibility for lost clothing.

Reception Uniform (all year):

- Grey jogging bottoms / leggings
- White polo shirt (optional embroidered school logo)
- Dark green, full zip fleece with embroidered school logo

Winter Uniform Year 1 to Year 6 (Terms 1 to 4)

- White long or short sleeved shirt
- School green striped tie (available from School Office)
- Grey V-neck woollen jumper or cardigan with embroidered school logo
- Grey trousers, skirt, pinafore dress or culottes
- Grey socks or tights
- Black shoes that can be polished (no trainers or boots)
- School backpack with logo or plain green backpack

Optional Summer Uniform Year 1 to Year 6 (Terms 5 and 6)

- White short sleeved shirt or polo shirt
- Grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or culottes
- Grey or white socks
- Black shoes that can be polished (not trainers, boots or open toed shoes)
- Green gingham/checked summer dress (not striped dresses, part checked dresses or playsuits
- We recommend green cycling shorts are worn under summer dresses

PE Kit (Year 1 to Year 6)

- White round necked t-shirt (optional embroidered logo)
- Black PE shorts
- Plain black or grey jogging bottoms (winter only)
- Black plimsolls (KS1 only)
- Black / white trainers (Key Stage 2 only)

Hair:

- Tram lines and designs cut into hair are not permitted.
- Long hair should be tied up with simple, standard school hair items; large bows and other items are not permitted.

Jewellery

- One pair of stud earrings (must be removed for PE lessons)
- A watch (if children can tell the time)

A summary of the school uniform policy is available on the website here and in Appendix 1.

4.2 Where to Purchase School Uniform

Much of the school's uniform can be purchased from high-street retailers and supermarkets.

Only items requiring a logo will need to be purchased elsewhere – school jumper or cardigan and for reception green fleece through Superstitch 86.

Our school PTA regularly hold preloved uniform sales, but you can also purchase pre-loved uniform items through the school office. Parents and carers are just asked to make an affordable donation for any items taken.

Pupils in receipt of income based free school meals can also get support with buying school uniform items. Please contact Mrs. Oakley (Inclusion Leader) or the school office.

For pupils with a particular sensory need where they are struggling to wear the standard uniform items, the Inclusion Leader will liaise with families to consider whether sensory-friendly items might be more appropriate; in this way, reasonable adjustments may be made to the uniform expectations held for specific pupils.

5. Expectations for our School Community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (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 e.g. at sporting events (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 the school office if they want to request an amendment to the school 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 School 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 a member of our Senior Leadership Team. 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 local governing board (LGB) will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Considers 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 two years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the governing board.

7. Links to Other Policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Complaints Policy
- Pupil Premium Report

Appendix 1: Sedlescombe School Uniform Summary

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- School backpack or plain green backpack

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  (Not trainers, boots or open toed shoes)
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