



South Farnham School's Uniform Policy

REVIEW DATE:

NOV 2025

NEXT REVIEW DATE:

NOV 2026

1. Purpose

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 gender, giving 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their gender.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable and agreed 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/carers to get in touch with Esther Franks (Headteacher), 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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.
- Is published on the school website.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics, where possible.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items.
- 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.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes.
- Ensuring that uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by reviewing contracts at least every five years.
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

4. Expectations for school uniform

At South Farnham School, we take pride in our appearance and believe that a smart, consistent uniform supports a strong sense of belonging across our One School - Two Sites community. Our uniform has been designed to be practical, affordable and in line with statutory guidance on branded items.

Branded items are those which feature the South Farnham School logo or are only available from a specific supplier due to their distinctive design or specification.

4.1 Our school's uniform

In line with statutory guidance, primary schools are limited to three compulsory branded items.

Infant Site (Maximum of Three Branded Items)

The compulsory branded items for pupils at the Infant Site are:

- South Farnham School jumper or cardigan (with logo)
- South Farnham white polo shirt (with logo)
- South Farnham PE T-shirt (with logo)

All other items may be purchased from a range of high street retailers provided they meet the colour and style requirements below.

Junior Site (Maximum of Three Branded Items)

The compulsory branded items for pupils at the Junior Site are:

- South Farnham School jumper or cardigan (with logo)

- South Farnham School tie
- South Farnham PE T-shirt (with logo)

Junior pupils wear a plain blue shirt (short or long-sleeved). This does not need to be branded and may be purchased from any retailer, provided it is the correct shade of blue and suitable for wearing with a tie.

Optional Branded Items

The following items are available but are not compulsory for any school activity:

- South Farnham PE bag
- South Farnham book bag
- South Farnham showerproof coat
- South Farnham cap
- South Farnham tracksuit

Generic alternatives in the correct colour are acceptable unless otherwise stated.

General Uniform Requirements

For pupils at the Infant Site, the uniform consists of grey trousers or shorts, a grey skirt or pinafore dress, a white polo shirt, a royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, grey socks, grey or blue tights or short white ankle socks and black school shoes. Where parents choose not to purchase the branded polo shirt or sweatshirt, plain items in the correct colours are acceptable.

For pupils at the Junior Site, the uniform consists of grey trousers or shorts, a grey skirt or pinafore dress, a blue shirt which may be short sleeved in summer, a royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan, the school tie, grey socks, grey or blue tights or short white ankle socks and black school shoes. Plain versions of the sweatshirt or cardigan are acceptable if they match the required colour.

Shoes must be plain black and suitable for school. Trainers are not permitted as part of everyday uniform. Open-toed sandals are not permitted for health and safety reasons. Bags should be practical and appropriate for school use. Coats should be suitable for outdoor play and learning throughout the year. Branded coats and book bags are optional.

PE and Sportswear

For PE, pupils at both sites are required to wear blue shorts, the South Farnham PE T-shirt, white sports socks and trainers or plimsolls. During colder months, pupils may wear plain jogging bottoms and a plain warm top, or the optional South Farnham tracksuit. Outdoor PE continues throughout the year, therefore suitable clothing for colder weather is essential.

Where swimming forms part of the curriculum, parents will be informed in advance of the required kit, which must be practical, modest and appropriate for school activity.

Hair and Appearance

Children are expected to come to school looking clean and smart each day. Fashion styles are not considered part of school uniform. Hair should not be cut shorter than Grade 2. Shaven styles, hair dye and artificial colouring are not permitted. Hairstyles which are considered extreme are not permitted. This includes styles where the sides are significantly shorter than the top or back, or where lines or patterns are shaved into the

hair. Hair that is shoulder length or longer must be tied back at all times. Hair accessories must be blue or black and flat to the head.

All expectations regarding appearance are applied consistently and reasonably, with due regard to the Equality Act 2010.

Jewellery, Watches and Valuables

Jewellery should not be worn in school as it may be lost or damaged and may present a health and safety risk. Earrings in particular can pose a danger. In cases of newly pierced ears, children may wear keepers for a short and necessary period. Pupils may not take part in PE if they are wearing jewellery. Parents are therefore encouraged to arrange ear piercing at the beginning of a school holiday so that children can fully participate in PE upon their return.

Valuable items are not encouraged in school. If a child does bring a valuable item, it should be handed to the class teacher for safekeeping during the day. Watches may be worn at the Junior Site at the discretion of parents, however the school cannot accept responsibility for damage or loss and watches must be removed for PE and games. Smart watches or watches with cameras, alarms or notification functions are not permitted.

Only pupils who travel to and from school independently, and who have a signed parental agreement in place, may bring a mobile phone. Mobile phones must be handed to the school office on arrival each day.

Seasonal and Specific Requirements

Some items are required only in particular circumstances, such as the school tie at the Junior Site, PE kit on designated PE days and swimming kit when swimming lessons are scheduled. Additional warm PE clothing may be required during winter months.

We appreciate the support of parents and carers in maintaining high standards of uniform across both sites. A consistent and smart appearance reflects the pride we have in our school community and supports a positive learning environment for all pupils.

4.2 Where to purchase our school uniform

All compulsory branded items are available to purchase through My Child at School (MCAS), the platform used by the school for communication, payments and information.

Non-branded items, including grey trousers or shorts, grey skirts or pinafore dresses, blue shirts for Junior pupils, socks and tights, may be purchased from a range of high street retailers and supermarkets, provided they meet the school's specified colour and style requirements. Parents and carers are not required to purchase these items from a specific supplier.

Second-hand uniform is available at both school sites. At the Infant Site, the PTA organises the sale of second-hand uniform. At the Junior Site, the PFA coordinates second-hand uniform provision. Second-hand items are made available at various points throughout the academic year, including at the beginning of year coffee mornings, parents' evenings and school fairs.

Parents and carers who require financial assistance with the purchase of uniform are encouraged to contact the school office in confidence. The school will consider requests for support on an individual basis to ensure that no pupil is disadvantaged due to the cost of uniform.

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Esther Franks (Headteacher) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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/carers are also expected to contact Esther Franks (Headteacher) 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/carers 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 complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers 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 under the Behaviour Policy.

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 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/carers 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 five years.

6. Links to other policies

This policy is published on our school website and available on request from the school office.

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Complaints policy
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy