



Buckingham Park

Church of England Primary School

Excellence, through God who strengthens us

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School Policy Document: Uniform Policy

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. At Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School it is important that every member of the school community feels valued and respected, and that each person is treated fairly and well. We are a caring community, built on a clear Christian foundation and rooted in Christian values. We aim to provide the highest quality all round education, for each and every child, in partnership with parents, within the context of a Christian community. In short, 'Excellence, through God who strengthens us'.
- 1.2. Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School is committed to creating a school community where exemplary behaviour is at the heart of productive learning. Everyone, staff, children and parents alike, are expected to maintain the highest standards of personal conduct, to accept responsibility for their behaviour, and encourage others to do the same.
- 1.3. All school policies are therefore designed to support the way in which all members of the school can live and work together in a supportive way. It aims to promote an environment where everyone feels happy, safe and secure and feel well prepared and educated for the next phase of their education.
- 1.4. The school has a set of values that are based on Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. These are a means of promoting good relationships, so that people can work together with the common purpose of helping everyone to learn. These values are displayed below:

We are kind, helpful and polite
We do our best
We are honest
We share
We are peacemakers
We forgive others
We take care of everything, and everyone

- 1.5. The school expects every member of the school community to behave in a considerate way towards others and by following these set of values.

2 Aims and Objectives

- 2.1. Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School is a Voluntary Aided School serving the whole community. We aim to provide the highest quality all round education, for each and every child, in partnership with parents, within the context of a Christian community. In short, 'Excellence, through God who strengthens us'.
- 2.2. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus and a list is supplied as an appendix to this policy.
- 2.3. 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 and explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- 2.4. Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:
 - promotes a sense of pride in the school;
 - engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
 - is practical and smart;
 - identifies the children with the school;
 - prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
 - makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
 - is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
 - is designed with health and safety in mind.

3. The school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

- 3.1. The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.
- 3.2. 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 the headteacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

4. Limiting the cost of school uniform

- 4.1. 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.

4.2. 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.

4.3. We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

4.4. We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- 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

5 Jewellery

5.1 On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. No exception will be made for recently pierced ears. A watch may be worn, but no smart watches with camera or recording capability are permitted.

6 Hair

6.1 Hair should be neatly presented. Long hair should be tied back with a simple bobble, scrunchy or alic band in school colours (navy blue or jade green).

6.2 Hair should be worn in a style appropriate for the varied activities of the school day and colours should be avoided.

7 Footwear

7.1 We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that are 'slip-on' or that have platform soles, high heels or open toes, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list.

8 Purchasing Uniform

- 8.1. We believe purchasing uniform should be easy and affordable for all. Most of our uniform, except those marked with a * on the list can be purchased from any high street retailer or supermarkets for affordability.
- 8.2. To keep costs low and to assist with ease of purchasing, we use three possible uniform suppliers locally for branded items such as jumpers and polo shirts. These providers cover most of the Aylesbury's primary and secondary schools meaning you can shop in one place.
- 8.3. School uniform items marked * on the list below are available from our schoolwear partners:

Bucks Schoolwear Plus, Aylesbury: <http://buckschoolwearplus.co.uk>

My Clothing: <https://myclothing.com>

PL Schoolwear: <https://plschoolewear.co.uk/>

- 8.4. Buckingham Park is committed to both affordability to parents, but also sustainability. Therefore, we will accept any donations of second hand uniform that no longer fits your child and is in reasonable condition.
- 8.5. Termly, we will hold a donation based, second hand uniform shop on the playground after the school day. Parents can purchase good quality, used items to minimize cost and maximize affordability.

9 The role of parents

- 9.1 We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean, in good repair and clearly named.
- 9.2 If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look thoughtfully at such requests.
- 9.3 Parents are also expected to contact the 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
- 9.4 Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.
- 9.5 Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be resolved locally and dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

10 The role of governors

- 10.1 The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.
- 10.2 It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

10.3 Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

11 Monitoring and review

11.1 The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

Buckingham Park Church of England Primary School

Uniform List

Uniform items

- Traditional, grey school skirt, trousers or shorts
- Navy blue polo shirt with school logo*
- Jade Green sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo*
- Grey socks or tights
- Black school style shoes (no trainers, boots or slip on shoes)
- Baseball cap or sun hat (available with school logo)
- In the summer term, children may wear a one piece navy and white gingham dress

P.E. and Games

- White T-shirt with school logo*
- Navy blue shorts
- Traditional black plimsolls
- Navy blue track suit (optional, but recommended for winter PE lessons)
- Drawstring bag for PE kit (available with school logo)
- Optional Navy Blue hoody with school logo* (available to order from PL schoolwear)

Other items

- Jade Green or Navy Blue Book bag (available with school logo)
- A clear, non-spill water bottle
- Navy Blue zipped reversible fleece coat with school logo* or a dark coloured school coat

Jewellery

Jewellery is unsuitable for school wear as it is easily lost or damaged and can cause injury to wearers and others. Earrings, of any kind, should not be worn. No exception will be made for recently pierced ears.

Hair

Long hair should always be tied back neatly with a simple bobble, scrunchy or alic band in school colours (jade green or navy blue). Hair should be worn in a style appropriate for the varied activities of the school day and colours should be avoided.

Headscarf (Hijab)

A navy or dark blue, plain headscarf (hijab) in the short fitted children's style (with no pins) may be worn.

Bags

A drawstring PE bag and Book Bag (and lunch box for those bringing in lunch) are sufficient for the vast majority of school days. Older children who walk, cycle or scoot to school independently may bring a small rucksack which can be stored in the luggage racks in the corridors.

School uniform items marked * are available from our schoolwear partners:

Bucks Schoolwear Plus, Aylesbury: <http://bucksschoolwearplus.co.uk>

My Clothing: <https://myclothing.com>

PL Schoolwear: <https://plschoollwear.co.uk/>