

The Bellbird Primary School



School Uniform Policy

Full Governing Body	Date: 12 th February 2025
Last reviewed in:	February 2025
Next review due by:	February 2027

1. Introduction

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.

The Bellbird Primary School uniform consists of:

Daily School Wear

- White or blue polo shirt - preferably with embroidered school logo and name
- Blue sweatshirt/cardigan – preferably with embroidered school logo and name
- Black or grey school trousers or shorts; black or grey skirt or pinafore
- Black shoes and plain coloured socks or tights (black, grey or white)
- Blue gingham dress for summer

Sports Clothing

- Blue T-shirt - preferably printed with school name
- Plain black or navy-blue shorts (above knee) for PE
- Track suit (plain black, navy blue or dark grey) for outdoor PE in cold weather
- Plimsolls or trainers are necessary for outdoor PE

Clothing with the school logo is optional but preferred for sweatshirt/cardigan.

1.1 Aims and Objectives

Our policy for 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.
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and is considered by parents as good value for money.
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.

1.2 Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels and we strongly discourage the wearing of such. Neither do we encourage the wearing of trainers/ pumps to school. This type of footwear is damaging, in the long-term, to growing feet and is only appropriate for sports, PE or leisurewear (playtimes). Neither is it in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. If, in the winter, boots are worn to school, then a pair of school shoes **must** be brought to school for the child to change in to and wear inside.

All pupils are expected to wear black school shoes or boots at school. Neither trainers, nor Ugg-style boots are permitted.

1.3 Hair

Hairstyles must be sensible and appropriate for school; extreme haircuts are not acceptable. Shaven heads or any haircut which involves the shaving of lines or symbols, extreme coloration or particularly noticeable variations in colour or length will almost certainly be judged as extreme by the school.

2. Uniform Rules

School uniform **must** be named.

Children may wear:

- Sensible inexpensive wristwatches, but they should be marked with the owner's name. The pupil must be responsible for their watch as the school is not responsible for damage or loss of personal property. Smart watches are not allowed in school.
- Hair bands and scrunchies should be plain and in school colours. Children should not wear fancy hair bands as some designs could cause injury and are not in keeping with the uniform.

Children should NOT wear:

- Jewellery except plain gold/silver stud earrings (these must be removed for sports activities or must be covered with a plaster or micropore which should be brought from home), except where they are for medical or religious reasons.

- Make-up, *including* nail varnish.
- Trainers, except for sports activities.
- Sports branded clothing during the normal school day.
- Hoodies.
- High-heeled shoes on Health and Safety grounds.
- If, in the winter, boots are worn to school, then a pair of school shoes must be brought to school for the child to change into.
- Hats and scarves during lessons, except for religious or medical reasons.

3. Purchasing School Uniform

Sweatshirts, polo shirts, PE T-shirts, book bags and PE bags can be purchased from the school office. From January 2025 school uniform will be available to purchase online.

4. The Role of Parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair. Where a parent is temporarily unable to send their child to school in the appropriate uniform, permission must be sought from the Head or Deputy Teacher who must agree that the reasons are valid. All items must be named.

5. The Role of Governors

It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all the regulations concerning equal opportunities. The Governors will consider, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation, either for religious or medical reasons, with regard to school uniform.

6. Cost of 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.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as 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.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items.
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

6. Policy Review

The Policy statement will be reviewed every 2 years or more frequently if there is a change in DfE guidance or an update to the school uniform.
