

Riverside Primary School

Where everyone matters and every day counts



School Uniform Policy

Agreed June 2025

Review June 2027

Changes since last version

- Updated to reflect DfE (2024) 'School Uniforms (formerly 2021)
- Further clarity that the pinafore dress and Riverside hoody have been phased out. Confirmation that the Riverside hoody can be used for PE only
- Updated swimming bag to include 'named' and not determine the material
- Added example of navy straight skirt to appendices
- Updated to reflect most recent parent consultation (April 2025)

Statement of Intent

At Riverside Primary School we believe it is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging to our school. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance.

We are committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background. This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart.

Additionally, we believe it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy also has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2024) 'School Uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

Key Personnel in Relation to this Policy

Name	Role(s)
Mrs V. Lucking	Chair of Governors
Mrs C Smith	Head Teacher
Miss E Shaw / Mrs Kim Watts	Deputy Head Teachers

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Head Teacher and school community, establishing a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Implementing appropriate support when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to establish school identity.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Head Teacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Head Teacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging.

Cost and Availability

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, Riverside Primary School ensures that the School Uniform Policy does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money.

Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible. As well as using our suppliers, nearly all our items can be purchased as non-branded versions in local clothing stores and supermarkets.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms.

Where changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community.

Riverside Primary School endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible. Please make an appointment with the Head/Deputy to discuss

the policy and to make any requests for religious wear to be worn in school.

Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by case basis by the Head Teacher and Governing Board. This is always conducted in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

Equality

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate.

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

Complaints and Challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

School Uniform Supplier

Branded school uniform (such as branded jumpers) can be purchased from:

Danielle's
Unit 5b Claydons Lane, Rayleigh, SS6 7UP

Danielles
30 High Street, Hockley, SS5 4QS.

Branded book bags and PE drawstring bags can also be purchased from our school office at any time. School ties can only be purchased from our school office.

Non-Compliance

On rare occasions, for example, if slogans on clothing are offensive, the Head Teacher and/or Deputy Head Teacher are permitted to ask a pupil to take off the

clothing, such as a sweatshirt/jumper. In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.

On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person.

If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, parents/carers may be asked to bring the item into school.

Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform. However, in accordance with our Child Protection Policy, these should be recorded using our electronic recording system (Safeguard) where appropriate. Should there be repeated concerns regarding a pupil's uniform, the class teacher will email the parent to discuss.

The school endeavours to work with families to resolve breaches of this policy in a timely manner. Any sanctions for breaches of this policy are a last resort and in line with our behaviour policy.

Children with SEND

As a school we are committed to supporting children with additional needs. We are aware that some children may require reasonable adjustments to their uniform as a result of an additional need. Should a parent feel that this is applicable to their child, we would encourage them to speak to a member of the leadership team or SENCO to discuss this further.

Our Uniform

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible and can be worn all year round. The uniform is as follows:

School Uniform

- Navy Trousers
- Navy Skirt which is an appropriate length (either on the knee or just above, not mid-thigh)
- Plain white/navy socks with shorts/skirts. Navy tights with skirts.
- Navy/black socks with trousers.
- Navy cardigan / Navy jumper with or without the school logo
- Light Blue Polo Shirts - Early Years Children ONLY all year
- Light Blue Shirts and School Ties from Year 1 onwards
- Flat, black smart school shoes/ plain black smart trainers (no bright logos, light-up soles).

Please note that the following items have been phased out and no longer uniform from September 2023.

- Navy Pinafore Dresses
- Riverside branded hoodie is not part of the main uniform. It has been retained for the PE kit.

Summer Uniform

Our summer uniform is optional and can only be worn from Easter until the October half term

- Navy Shorts
- Navy Blue Gingham Check Summer Dresses (not playsuits)
- Ties not to be worn during the second half of summer term (June/July)

Leavers Hoodies

In Year 6, our children are presented with the opportunity to purchase a Leavers Hoodie. Once the children are in possession of this item of clothing they are entitled to wear this as part of their uniform the final few weeks of the school year.

Our PE Kit

Children are asked to come into school on the day of their PE lesson wearing their PE kit. They can wear it for the full school day.

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for PE. The PE kit is as follows:

- Plain white T-shirt with or without the school logo
- Navy hoodie, either plain or with the school logo
- Navy tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts
- Appropriate trainers

All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name and kept in an appropriate PE bag. We recommend a drawstring bag.

Children with long hair should have this tied back with an appropriate, plain hair tie.

Swimming Kit

Children participate in swimming lessons at Riverside Primary School. On swimming days children should come to school in their PE kit. They will change into their swimming kit before their lesson. For these lessons, children should have the following:

- A swimming costume/shorts/trunks
- A swimming hat
- A pair of goggles
- A towel
- An appropriate named bag to keep their kit in

Swimming hats can be purchased from the main office.

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings (no other piercings are permitted)
- A sensible wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, for example, PE lessons/ swimming lessons. If children cannot remove their own earrings, then this should be done at home on the day of PE.

Please note

- Open-toed sandals and boots are not considered suitable footwear for school.
- During inclement weather, children can wear wellington boots to school but they must have a change of shoes for the school day.
- High heels are not permitted: sensible, plain black shoes must be worn by both boys and girls.
- Black jeans and leggings are not permitted in day-to-day uniform.
- All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

School Bags

Pupils in EYFS and KS1 should bring a book bag. This will be appropriate for their reading book, reading log and water bottle. Additional book bags can also be purchased from our school office at any time.

Pupils in KS2 must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold children's books and reading diaries comfortably without causing any damage.

Large bags/large rucksacks are strongly discouraged for day-to-day lessons due to space on children's pegs.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted. The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

Water Bottles

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children whenever necessary during the day. Water bottles must be labelled with the pupil's name.

Hair Styles

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted.

Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds. The Head Teacher will take each individual pupil's scenario into consideration.

We recommend that long hair is tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

Plain hairbands and small clips are appropriate to tie up hair. Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn

At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss/for religious purposes.

Make-Up

False nails and nail extensions are not permitted.

Only clear nail varnish may be worn.

Children are not allowed to wear make-up. False eyelashes are not permitted.

Pupils wearing make-up are required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it.

At the Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

Adverse Weather

Hot Weather

Everyone working at/attending the school during hot weather conditions should wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible.

This includes wearing:

- Sun-safe hats
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- All day sunscreen should be applied before children attend school

During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are not required to wear their jumpers/cardigans during heatwaves.

If outside during break and lunch times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing/sunscreen are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

Children will be advised not to wear their ties and undo their top buttons. A message will be sent home to parents before this is permitted. Children are permitted to wear the optional summer uniform.

Cold Weather

During cold weather, pupils are advised to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.

Labelling

School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated spaces for children to keep belongings in and checking of labels. However, all pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name.

Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school.

If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher.

Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time. The lost property box is located in the reception area of the Blue Building.

Previously Loved Uniform

Riverside Primary School has a proactive PTA who hold regular preloved uniform sales for children. This is an opportunity for you to purchase a school uniform at a significant discount. Dates of forthcoming sales will be located on their facebook page and on the weekly newsletter.

If you have previously loved uniform which you would like to donate to the school, please liaise with PTA regarding the most appropriate way to achieve this by emailing pta@riversideprimary.co.uk





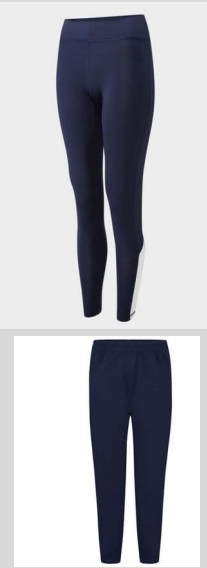


Communication





We regularly communicate with parents about our uniform expectations through our annual phase presentations to parents at the beginning of the school year and our phase letters. Teachers and senior leaders are readily available to discuss any aspect of the uniform policy by appointment. Parents were consulted about this policy in April 2025 Feedback was used to amend the policy accordingly before its final publication in June 2025.

Appendix 1

The red and navy striped tie can only be purchased from the Main Office and is statutory. All other items can be purchased from our uniform suppliers. Non-branded versions can be purchased from other retailers.

Polo Shirt - EYFS only			
	Light Blue Polo Shirt		
Shirts (from Year 1 onwards)			
	Light Blue Short-Sleeved Shirt	Light Blue long -Sleeved Shirt	Stripy red tie
Jumpers or cardigans			
	Navy woollen jumper	Navy woollen cardigan	
Navy Trousers or skirt			
	Navy Skirt - pleated	Navy Skirt - straight	Navy Smart Trousers
White/Navy Socks with skirts/dresses Navy tights with skirts White//black/navy socks with trousers			
	Navy knee length socks	Navy ankle length socks	Navy tights

<p>Summer uniform (optional) Easter to October Half Term</p>			
	<p>Navy gingham dress</p>	<p>Navy shorts</p>	
<p>PE Kit (warmer weather)</p>			
	<p>White T-Shirt</p>	<p>Navy shadow stripe shorts</p>	
<p>PE Kit (colder weather)</p>			
	<p>White T-Shirt</p>	<p>Plain navy jogging bottoms/Leggings</p>	<p>Riverside Branded Hoodie OR Plain Navy Hoodie / Zipped Hooded Top</p>
<p>Optional branded extras available</p>			
	<p>Navy baseball cap</p>	<p>Navy Hat</p>	<p>Navy Scarf</p>

<p>Optional branded extras available</p>			
	<p>Navy zip up fleece</p>	<p>Navy waterproof coat</p>	
<p>Bags</p>			
	<p>Book Bag</p>	<p>PE Bag</p>	