Bovington Academy
School Uniform Policy

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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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable; bright and unnatural colours are not appropriate for school
    - 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 Principal who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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 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.
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, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo and piping
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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
- 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 inter-school competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items – this can be done via the Bovington PTFA
- 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

- Our school blazer is the only branded uniform item required for Years 2-6
- There is no expectation for PE and swimming kit to be branded
- Jewellery should not be worn at school, unless on religious grounds, and any earrings for both boys and girls should be small studs. Facial piercings are not appropriate for primary aged children and will not be allowed
- School shoes should be plain black, with no coloured soles/laces or visible logos
- Summer dresses, jumpsuits and tailored shorts can be worn when the weather is warm

4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform can be purchased via Dorset Schoolwear:

DORSET SCHOOLWEAR (UNIFORM SUPPLIERS)

Dorset Schoolwear Limited
The Dorset Schoolwear Shop
The Old Rock Factory
Caroline Place
Weymouth
DT4 7NW

Telephone : 01305 760804
Website: https://dorsetschoolwear.shop/product-category/schools/schools-bovington-academy/
Email : Shop@dorsetschoolwear.co.uk

- Parents and Carers can purchase non-branded items from any high street retailer
- Second-hand uniform is available and this can be purchased directly from them – please contact the school

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 the Principal 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 are also expected to contact the Principal 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 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 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the vice principal if the situation doesn't improve. The principal will become involved as a last resort.
Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in line with the school's 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. Please contact the School Business Manager in confidence if you are struggling financially.

5.4 Governors

The regional 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 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 annually by the Principal. At every review, it will be approved by the regional board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

RECEPTION

Item	Description	Retailer
Black V-neck jumper (not sweatshirt)	School logo optional	Any
Pale blue polo shirt	School logo optional	Any

YEAR 1

Item	Description	Retailer
Black V-neck jumper (not sweatshirt)	School logo optional	Any
Pale blue polo shirt	School logo optional	Any

YEARS 2 – 6

Item	Description	Retailer
Blazer	With school logo	Dorset School Wear
Black V-neck jumper (not sweatshirt)	School logo optional	Any
Tie	10” and 14” clip tie or 39” standard tie Both in lightning blue	Dorset School Wear
Shirt	White	Any

RECEPTION – YEAR 6

Item	Description	Retailer
Trousers	Grey, tailored, classic style and full length to the shoes NOT jean like corduroy, overly tight or leggings.	Any
Skirt	Grey, classic style, knee length, pleated or straight.	Any
Shorts	Grey, tailored, classic style and knee length. NOT jean like, corduroy or overly tight.	Any
Socks	Black socks with trousers. Black socks with skirts. White ankle socks with summer dresses. Plain with no logos.	Any
Tights	Plain black tights.	Any
Shoes	Plain black footwear. No trimmings, logos, coloured soles, coloured laces or stitching or other decorations, fabric shoes or boots.	Any
Summer dresses	Light blue and white checked gingham dress/culottes/jumpsuits.	Any
Book bag	Black - school logo optional	Dorset School Wear

P.E.

The P.E. Kit is to be kept at school in a named bag (drawstring/carrier bag) during the week.

Item	Description	Retailer
White t-shirt	Plain	Any
Shorts	Plain black	Any
Sweatshirt	Plain black	Any
Tracksuit / Jogging bottoms	Plain black	Any
Trainers	Any brand suitable for P.E.	Any