



School Uniform Policy



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Statement of intent

Delapre Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital for:

- Promoting the ethos of a school.
- Providing a sense of belonging and identity.
- Setting an appropriate tone for education.

For the purposes of this policy, “**uniform**” includes the following elements of pupils’ appearance:

- Clothing, including the school uniform itself, variations of the school uniform such as PE kits, and other clothing worn at school, e.g. non-uniform.
- Hairstyles and headwear.
- Jewellery and other accessories.
- Cosmetics such as makeup and nail polish.
- Temporary tattoos

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, is affordable, and provides the best value for money for both the school and pupils’ families. We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

In writing and updating this policy, we have sought to:

- Engage with parents and pupils.
- Consider how this policy might affect groups represented in the school, especially those who share protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010.
- Consider how comfortable the uniform will be for pupils.
- Take a sensible approach to allow for exceptions to be made, e.g. during adverse weather.
- Ensure that the uniform is suitable and safe for pupils who walk or cycle to school.
- Choose a PE kit which is practical, comfortable, appropriate to the activity involved and affordable.
- Ensure the policy is easy to access and understand.

Legal framework

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

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2024) 'Developing School Uniform Policy'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Pupil Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy

Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible, inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating in this policy how best value for money has been achieved.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's ['Cost of school uniforms'](#) guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform rules on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting shirt.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Where appropriate to their role, disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires an exemption to the uniform rules for a period of time, with a reason 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 headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.
- Wearing their uniform in the correct way (not tying jumpers/cardigans around waists)

Cost principles

The school will develop its uniform policy in relation to the following starting principles:

- The school will seek to ensure that the uniform is affordable. In so doing, the school will consider the total cost of school uniforms, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school.
- The school will seek to keep the use of branded items to a minimum.
- The school will seek to ensure that uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, including the quality and durability of the garment.
- The school will seek to ensure that second-hand uniforms are available for parents to acquire. Information on second-hand uniforms will be published on the school's website.

Principles in practice

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform requirements do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.

- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform.
- LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school will keep variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g. year group-specific items or house colours, to a minimum to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, e.g. supermarkets, due to the item's logo, colour, design, fabric or other unique element. Where the school requires an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this. This may include:

- Offering sew- or iron-on logo patches for blazers and jumpers that can be bought at non-specialist retailers, instead of requiring specific branded jumpers.
- Ensuring branded items are longer-lasting and unlikely to be grown out of quickly, e.g. ties.
- Making donated second-hand uniform available for purchase at a lower price.

The school will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers. The school will work with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated will be passed to parents where possible. The school will not enter into cash-back arrangements. More information on supplier processes can be found in the ['School uniform supplier'](#) section of this policy.

The school will not make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any pupil very seriously.

In line with the above, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable and suitable for their needs, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that, where appropriate and with pupils' consent, views and advice are sought specifically from pupils.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined below.

Gender

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain gender, the school will ensure that the cost of uniform is as equal in price as possible across items for all genders.

This includes:

- Adhering to the procedures laid out in the '[Cost principles](#)' section of this policy.
- Not directly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional uniform, e.g. by requiring female pupils to buy both trousers and skirts.
- Not indirectly requiring pupils of a certain gender to buy additional uniform, e.g. by offering football in PE to only male pupils and requiring they buy football boots to participate.
- Not holding pupils of different genders to different uniform standards, e.g. by banning certain hairstyles for only one gender.

Religion and belief

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain religion, belief or culture, the school will ensure that there is flexibility to allow pupils to present themselves in a way that adheres to their dress requirements as far as possible, within the school's uniform policy.

The school will endeavour to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, the needs and rights of individual pupils will be weighed against any health and safety concerns appropriate to the circumstances, e.g. if safety headgear needs to be worn.

Race

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain race, the school will ensure that its uniform policy does not constitute unlawful indirect discrimination through blanket rules. This includes:

- Not banning hairstyles related to a pupil's ethnic origin, e.g. natural Afro hairstyles.
- Not banning hairstyles worn because of cultural, family and social customs, e.g. cornrows.
- Not banning head coverings related to a pupil's culture or ethnic origin, e.g. African heritage head wraps.

The school will follow the good practice guidance provided by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on '[Preventing hair discrimination in schools](#)'.

SEND and medical conditions

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will ensure its uniform policy takes into account the needs of these pupils. This includes:

- Allowing variations to the standard uniform for pupils whose medical conditions may impact how they dress, e.g. pupils with casts who require loose-fitting clothing or pupils with hair loss-related conditions who wish to wear head coverings.

Where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

The school will ensure that it works with a supplier that acts in accordance with the school's values and principles on equality and inclusion.

Complaints and challenges

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

The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Procedures Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein.

When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

The school has an agreed procedure in place with its uniform supplier to deal with complaints about the supply and quality of uniforms.

In considering a complaint, parents should be aware that teachers can sanction pupils for breaching the school's rules on appearance or uniform. The school expects this to be carried out in accordance with the school's published behaviour policy. The school aims to deal with pupil non-compliance in a proportionate and fair way.

School uniform supplier

- **See Appendix 1.**

The governing board will ensure that a written contract is in place with the supplier for branded items. The school will tender the uniform contract every five years, whether changes to the uniform are made or not, in line with the Tendering and Procurement Policy. The governing board will be able to demonstrate how uniform is procured at the best value for money. The headteacher will work to ensure that the items are procured as cheaply as possible without compromising on the quality, e.g. by requesting standard-style items from the supplier rather than more intricate and unique designs.

The school will not sign contracts with suppliers before requesting visualisations and samples of proposed uniform.

Finding and consulting suppliers

If the school is considering changing its suppliers and seeks a list of available suppliers, it will consider the following options:

- Consulting an industry body
- Researching local suppliers
- Consulting with other schools and networks
- Having informal discussions with potential suppliers to help determine the school's own needs

If the school prepares to request bids from potential suppliers, it will consider the following elements:

- What products parents will need
- Existing contractual commitments
- Length of tender process
- The school's evaluation process

Template documents

Schools will use the DfE's ['Procuring uniform supplies'](#) template documents to ensure that they undergo the procurement process correctly. The templates consist of an invitation to tender, a request for quotation, and a pricing schedule.

Schools will use the invitation to tender template to ask questions of suppliers. Schools will then use the pricing schedule to ask suppliers to submit their prices. Full instructions on how to use the templates are included in each of the documents.

Uniform assistance

For disadvantaged families, if you feel assistance is required, please speak to the school office.

The school will hold second-hand school uniforms in the school office for parents to access. Parents will be invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

Non-compliance

The headteacher, or a person authorised by the headteacher, will be permitted to ask a pupil to briefly go home to remedy breaches to the school's uniform. When deciding whether to allow a pupil to return home, the member of staff will consider the pupil's age and vulnerability, the length of time it will take, and the availability of the pupil's parents. A parent will always be contacted before sending the pupil home – if contact with the pupil's parent cannot be made, the pupil will remain in school.

Where a pupil has been sent home to rectify uniform breaches, the absence will be recorded as 'authorised'. If a pupil repeatedly breaches uniform rules, or takes longer than necessary to rectify the absence, the absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised'.

Parents will be notified of pupils' breaches of school uniform in all cases.

School uniform

See Appendix 1

Adverse weather

All pupils will be advised to wear weather-appropriate clothing.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Sunglasses with UV protection when outside.
- Suitable caps/hats.

Pupils will be advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when outside.

Labelling and lost property

Parents will be advised to ensure that all pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name and year group.

Any lost clothing will be taken to the lost property box outside the school office. All lost property will be retained for one month and will be disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed by the chair of governors and the headteacher.

The school will engage with parents and pupils when reviewing this policy.

Any subsequent changes to this policy will be communicated to all staff, pupils, parents and other relevant stakeholders.

APPENDIX 1

DELAPRE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM

Delapre prides itself on its reputation and we believe school uniform contributes to that reputation.

All pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform.

OUR UNIFORM SUPPLIER IS UNIFORM DIRECT

If you have any queries, **Uniform Direct** can be contacted on **01522 510016** or via their website www.uniform-direct.com

PLEASE ENSURE ALL SCHOOL UNIFORM IS LABELLED CLEARLY WITH YOUR CHILD'S NAME.

JEWELLERY – Jewellery, (**other than a watch or small stud earrings***), is not allowed, in accordance with our Health & Safety Policy. Earrings which dangle, rings or nose studs are not allowed following previous accidents. **No SMART watches allowed.**

All earrings should be removed on PE days.

To clarify: *small stud earrings should be plain in colour (gold/silver) no larger than half a centimetre in diameter (0.5cm) and they should have no hanging element.

NAIL VARNISH – Per our Uniform Policy: Delapre Primary School does not allow pupils to wear make-up or nail varnish in school.

If a pupil arrives at school wearing nail varnish, we will ask parents/carers, or the pupil themselves, to remove the nail varnish that evening. **If nail varnish is not removed by the following day, as requested, we will contact parents/carers by telephone to either come in and remove it; or give us permission to remove in School.**

TEMPORARY TATTOOS – Per our Uniform Policy: Delapre Primary School does not allow pupils to wear temporary tattoos

HAIR – must be worn in an appropriate style. There should be no extreme styles, including shaved lines or patterns. Hair longer than collar length must be **always tied back**. Hair bands, bobbles/scrunchies, clips and any beading must be of a sensible size and ideally yellow or navy. Hair should be one natural colour.

EYEBROWS - No lines should be shaved into the eyebrows.

OUTDOOR CLOTHING – a warm, washable coat will be required for outdoor play times and when using the play area. **This must be labelled with your Child's Name.**

SHOES – sensible, flat, black shoes. Smart all black Leather polishable trainers with NO branding/logos and BLACK laces. Plain Black flat Leather Boots. (No fashion shoes, high wedges, sling-backs, or open-toed sandals in the summer)



UNIFORM

Yellow Polo Shirt (optional)
Navy Sweatshirt
Navy Cardigan

with DPS School emblem



Plain Yellow Polo Shirt



Navy Trousers or Shorts
(NOT Black)
Tailored Navy shorts
NO Chinos, NO Jersey



**Navy, Grey, or Black Socks
(NOT White)**



**Yellow Polo Shirt (optional)
Navy Sweatshirt
Navy Cardigan
with DPS School emblem**



Plain Yellow Polo Shirt



**Navy Pinafore
Skirt Dresses and skirts to be KNEE LENGTH
Trousers
Culottes or Shorts, no Playsuits
(NOT Black)
Yellow and white gingham summer dress
(PLAYSUITS are NOT a uniform item)**



**Navy or white socks
Navy tights**



PE KIT BOYS & GIRLS

Navy shorts
White T-Shirt
White Socks
Black Plimsolls
Outdoor Trainers



ADDITIONAL PE KIT

Reception – Trainers, Dark Non-Branded Jogging Bottoms are required from February

Year 1,2 and KS2 – Trainers, Dark Non-Branded Jogging Bottoms,
Dark Non-Branded Hoody or Sweatshirt
Rugby Top Years 3,4,5,6 (optional)



ACCESSORIES

BOOK BAG



PE BAG



Book bags (£6) and PE Bags (£4) are available from school, ex-VAT or online inc VAT from **Uniform Direct** via www.uniform-direct.com or **01522 510016**.

BACKPACK Y5 & 6 ONLY (optional)

A large rucksack is available from school (£15.50), ex-VAT **or** online inc VAT from Uniform Direct for children in **Years 5 & 6 only**.



GENERAL INFORMATION:

Polo Shirts, Sweatshirts and Cardigans (all items with the School logo) are available exclusively from the Uniform Direct website www.uniform-direct.com

N.B: for larger sizes of uniform than are shown on the website (above Small Adult 36”) please contact **Uniform Direct** on **01522 510016** or email: **customerservices@uniform-direct.com**

Your uniform order will be delivered directly to your home address, at a flat delivery charge of £3.96. You can combine your order with other families to save on delivery if you so wish, as the £3.96 fee will cover any number of items. Free delivery is available for orders over £29.

“**Non-logo**” uniform can be purchased from most good school uniform shops and many supermarkets or department stores, i.e., Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Next, Asda etc. This includes trousers, skirts, dresses, PE kit and socks. PE Kit is also available from Uniform Direct.

We have a stock of second-hand uniform donated by parents, which is sold at 50p per item and is available from the School Office, however we cannot guarantee which sizes we will have available. If parents have uniform that their children have grown out of, please donate it in a clean and undamaged condition to the School Office for this purpose. All funds raised by these sales are used for the benefit of the children in our school. Thank you.