

At Holywell Village First School we have high aspirations for our children to become well-rounded, respectful and responsible future citizens. They are happy, independent and have positive self-esteem. They have a thirst for learning and are emotionally regulated so they are 'Ready to Learn'. They are curious about the world around them and are confident to 'have a go'. They are reflective learners who persevere and demonstrate good communication and social skills. They are thoughtful, caring and kind.

Holywell Village First School



School Uniform Guidance and Non- Negotiable Document

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Purpose of this guidance:

Holywell Village First School is 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 guidance contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart.

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

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2024) 'Developing a School Uniform Policy' guidance

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

- Home-School Agreement
- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

Key Personnel in Relation to this Guidance

Name	Role(s)
Mrs A Hall	Chair of Governors
Mrs S Brett	Head Teacher
Mrs S Endacott	Deputy Head Teacher
Mrs E Reed	School Manager

Roles and Responsibilities

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The Governing Board is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Head Teacher and school community, establishing guidance for parents and carers regarding practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's suggested 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 guidance.
- Where parents/carers would like their child to wear uniform, ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Ensuring that school staff understand this guidance and know what to do if a pupil is dressed inappropriately according to the 'non-negotiables'.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform guidance and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions to the 'non-negotiables' as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken toe and requires to wear open-toed sandals for a short period of time.

Teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in an appropriate manner.
- Taking appropriate action when pupils are not dressed appropriately for the weather or school activities e.g. P.E.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having consistent and practical school uniform guidance 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 guidance where appropriate.
- Informing the Head Teacher if their child requires clothing or footwear that contravenes the 'non-negotiable' items from this guidance for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform/school clothing is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- 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, Holywell Village First School ensures that the School Uniform Guidance does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child.

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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 suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible.

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

Where changes may be required, the school will ensure that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

Religious Clothing

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.

Holywell Village First School endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible.

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 guidance 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 suggested 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 to this Guidance

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.

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

School Uniform Supplier

If parents/carers choose to purchase uniforms with logos (although this is not enforceable) our school uniform supplier is:

- Ciel Uniform

There is **no requirement** for uniform items to be purchased from here or to display the school logo.

PAF Association – New and Nearly new clothing sales

Members of our Parents and Friends Association hold a half-termly (the first Tuesday of each half term) uniform sale on the school yard. Parents/Carers are able to buy good quality new and nearly (donated) uniform items for a small cost (usually 50p to £1 per item). This service is open to all parents/carers to take advantage of.

Dealing with incidents of inappropriate or missing uniform

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, The School Manager will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person. Those with parental responsibility will be asked to provide more suitable footwear either on that day or by the next day.

If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, for example, outdoor P.E, 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 dressed appropriately. Staff will be sensitive to the the family circumstances and explored with the parents/carers, working together to find a solution. If there is a concern around a child's clothing in terms of safeguarding, these will be dealt with in accordance with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy.

Our Uniform Guidance

The school endeavours to ensure that our suggested uniform is as gender neutral as possible. The suggested uniform is as follows:

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with or without the school logo)
- White polo shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Grey or black trousers (joggers can be worn in Nursery & Reception)
- Grey or black skirt (in summer, a blue and white summer dress may be worn)
- Book bag (with or without the school logo)

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Non-Negotiables

Although we do not insist on particular clothing for the majority of the time in school, there are certain items that must be worn on the grounds of health and safety.

Footwear

Black, sensible shoes (preferably not trainers) should be worn for school. Open-toed sandals, Croc©-like clogs, sliders and large, thick (hiking style or fashion fur) boots are not considered suitable footwear for school. High heels are not permitted: sensible, plain shoes should be worn by both boys and girls.

All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

Our P.E. Kit

Wearing the correct P.E. kit is essential to ensure your child's and other children's safety during P.E. activities. Children are asked to attend school wearing their appropriate kit on days they are timetabled to do P.E..

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for

P.E.. The P.E. kit is as follows:

- Plain white T-shirt (with or without the school logo)
- Tracksuit bottoms or leggings (for outdoor P.E. in colder months)
- Navy shorts
- Plain, suitable trainers or black pumps

Plain jogging bottoms, hoodies/sweatshirts are preferred. However, a small, branded logo is acceptable.

All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- A sensible wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

Earrings are not permitted to be worn in school and should a child come to school wearing earrings, The School manager will contact the parent/carer to come into school and remove the earrings.

Any watch worn by a child is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

All watches must be removed during practical lessons, for example, P.E. lessons.

School Bag

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Pupils must use a reading folder 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 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 Bottle

All children should bring a water bottle (containing plain water only) 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

Long hair should be tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands are acceptable.

Adverse Weather

Hot Weather

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

This includes wearing:

- Loose fitting tops with collars or covered necklines
- Tops that cover the shoulder area
- Grey or black shorts or pale blue and white summer dresses of an appropriate length (if families wish to). Families should consider asking children to wear shorts under their dresses or skirts if they feel that would protect their child's modesty and privacy
- Sun-safe hats
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunscreen (children must be able to apply this themselves and it must be labelled and handed to the child's class teacher)

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 will be asked to stay in an area protected from the sun. Leadership may take the decision to have playtime indoors if there the risk is deemed to be too great to be outside.

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Cold Weather

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

Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted.

Where possible, pupils not wearing warm clothing are provided with spare clothing if going outside during break and lunch times; however if this is not possible, these children will remain indoors during snow/period of cold weather.

When there is snowy weather, pupils will be allowed to play on the field if they have suitable waterproof boots eg wellington boots. Uggs, untreated leather boots etc are not suitable as they become wet and children's feet become unacceptably cold and uncomfortable, impeding their ability to be 'Ready To learn' in lessons.

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.

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Appendix 1 – Quick Reference Guide to Recommended School Uniform

The images below are intended as a guide. We do recommend sweatshirts/cardigans with our school logo on or plain royal blue ones. We also recommend grey or black trousers/skirts/shorts. For more information, please read our School Uniform Guidance in full.

Winter	Summer	P.E.
		
<p>Snowy days:</p> 		

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