School Uniform Policy

Clarity Independent School

Bridge Barn Farm
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Chelmsford
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Clarity Independent School is committed to safeguarding...

"Our school is committed to our whole-school approach to safeguarding, which ensures that keeping children safe is at the heart of everything we do, and underpins all systems, processes and policies...We promote an environment where children and young people feel empowered to raise concerns and report incidents and we work hard in partnership with pupils, parents and caregivers to keep children safe."

Clarity Safeguarding Policy September 2026

Written by Debbie Hanson
Head Teacher

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1.0 Introduction

1.1 At Clarity Independent School it is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised events.

2.0 Aims & Objectives

2.1 Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief 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
- identifies the children with the school
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents
- is designed with health and safety in mind
- reduces the impact of sensory discomfort experienced by some pupils

3.0 Jewellery

3.1 On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are:

- Earring studs in pierced ears

- Small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or Sikh Kara (worn for religious reasons). We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons.
- Bracelets or other jewellery that signifies a serious medical condition
- Specific items of wearable fidgets or fiddle jewellery that has been agreed by the SENDCO or Headteacher

The school advises parents who wish their children to have their ears pierced to do so at the beginning of the school summer holidays to ensure they are healed and able to be removed for PE independently when they return to school in September.

3.2 Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems e.g. diabetes or epilepsy.

3.3 Jewellery specifically for sensory / regulation purposes, e.g. a sensory ring on a finger, or Social Emotional Mental Health (SEMH) difficulties can be worn if agreed as an assessed need. Advice might be taken by the school from the Occupational Therapist to consider alternatives. If agreed, a variation to policy will be recorded.

3.4 The school does not permit pupils to wear any make-up except very natural-appearing, unnoticeable makeup.

4.0 Hairstyles and Nails

4.1 The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts or those which could serve as a distraction to other children.

4.2 Hairstyles which are considered extreme, such as (but not exclusively) tramlines, stars, shaved heads, Mohican cuts, or hair styles that include dyed, tipped, dipped or unnatural coloured hair are also not permitted.

4.3 Pupils with long hair must have their hair tied up, or back from their face, in a neat manner for safety reasons (particularly in PE, D&T, cookery or Science lessons) and to prevent potential contact with headlice.

4.4 Nails should be kept no longer than the end of the fingers plus 1-2mm, for health and safety reasons. If a child attends school wearing longer nails, they will be asked to and supported to clip them to an appropriate length. False nails should not be worn for school for health and safety reasons. Nails should be a natural colour for school.

5.0 Footwear

5.1 The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for growing, active children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels; therefore, such shoes are not permitted. Children are expected to wear black / dark coloured, plain trainers to school (with no sports logos or flashes of colour.)

6.0 The Role of Parents/Carers

6.1 We ask all parents to support the school's Uniform Policy and to ensure that their child has the correct clean uniform in good repair. Occasionally, pupils will neglect to bring the correct clothing for activities that require a change of clothing such as PE, Danbury Outdoors and swimming. Keyworkers will send regular reminders to parents/ caregivers to make them aware of the need for different clothing. It is the parental duty to ensure that suitable clothing is provided as advised by the school. Where pupils intend to access the activities but do not have the correct clothing in school, parents/ caregivers will be contacted and will be expected to bring clothes to school before the activity commences if the clothing is not already present in school. The school endeavours to demonstrate an inclusive approach to activities by loaning clothing in emergencies if there is a legitimate reason that parents have been unable to supply clothing; however, the safeguarding of pupils remains a priority and children will not be able to access certain activities without the appropriate attire. This forms part of our duty to safeguard the pupils as is the responsibility of the parents/ caregivers.

6.2 Although we believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork, if a parent / caregiver find this difficult to supply for any reason, especially including financial reasons, they can contact the school for support regarding appropriate suppliers and assistance based on financial income verification.

7.0 Uniform

Below is a list of uniform needed for school:

7.1 Daily uniform:

- White polo shirt / t-shirt
- Light grey tracksuit bottoms
- Black tracksuit bottoms are also permitted for girls and boys in Key Stage 3 and 4
- Black or grey shorts for warmer weather
- Light grey sweatshirt or light grey zip up top (no hoods allowed)
- Black, grey or white socks
- Black / dark coloured plain trainers/comfortable black shoes

7.2 PE Kit **-** This will be left in school:

- White plain t-shirt
- Black, grey or navy plain PE shorts
- Spare pair of socks and spare pair of trainers/pumps

7.3 Bush School (Tuesdays)

- Warm outdoor clothing
- Waterproof coat
- Full change of clothes (including underwear in case of accidental puddle-bathing!)
- Wellies –to be left in school
- Optional – gloves, hat and second pair of socks in very cold weather
- In extremely wet weather, waterproof trousers would be beneficial
- In extremely cold weather, thermal underclothes are also useful

7.4 Swimming

- Girls: One-piece swimsuit or swim shorts and swim top overlapping in the middle
- Boys: Swim Shorts (not long, baggy shorts)
- Towel
- A waterproof bag to keep their swimming things in, separate from their books etc.
- Optional - googles, nose clip and ear plugs

Individual Adaptations of Uniform

If any parent/carer would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Head Teacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are substantiated reasons, for example on religious grounds or their special educational needs or disabilities, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

This policy will be updated every two years in accordance with relevant guidance and regulations.

Overall responsibility for setting the uniform policy in **Clarity Independent School** rests with the Head Teacher, Debbie Hanson.

The following are examples showing the *types* of school wear permitted:

Joggers

T-Shirts

Jumper (no hood)

Alternative jumper (with zip)

PE shorts and T shirt (can be same style of T-shirt for PE, and can be used as daily uniform)

Examples of trainers / comfortable shoes (daily uniform in addition to PE tainers)

Swimming costume - girls

Swimming shorts – boys (any colour)

Swimming tops (optional if desired, boy or girl) – any colour