

Foxfield School

Uniform Policy



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Contents

1. Aims
2. Foxfield's Legal duties under the Equality Act 2000
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
4. Expectations for school uniform
 - 4.1 Foxfield Schools uniform
 - 4.2 Where to purchase Foxfield Schools uniform
 - 4.3 Jewellery and accessories
 - 4.4 Swimming kit
 - 4.5 Outdoor learning kit
 - 4.6 Extreme weather provision
 - 4.7 Lost property and labelling
 - 4.8 Spare clothing and changing
5. Expectations for Foxfield School community
 - 5.1 Pupils
 - 5.2 Parents and carers
 - 5.3 Staff
 - 5.4 Governors
 - 5.5 Supporting families with uniform costs
 - 5.6 Managing non-compliance
 - 5.7 Medical and SEND considerations
6. Monitoring arrangements
7. Links to other policies
8. Review

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 expectations for school uniform.

2. Foxfield's Legal duties under the Equality Act 2000

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, Foxfield school will:

- Avoiding 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.
- Ensure that school uniform expectations show consideration for our pupils' sensory needs and support our pupils in learning how to dress and undress independently.
- 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 a way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils/parents 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 parents to contact the Headteacher, via the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Foxfield 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.

Foxfield understands 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 encourage parents to use Wirral FUSS (Free UniformS for Schools)

[Wirral FUSS](#)

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 e.g. jumpers/cardigans with school logo only; other items are optional and can be purchased at the discretion of the parents/carers.
- Actively encourage non-branded uniform items to keep costs low. Branded items are entirely optional and non-branded alternatives are equally acceptable.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items e.g. 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 e.g. coats, bags, shoes.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Foxfield Schools uniform

Our school uniform consists of:

- A navy blue jumper or cardigan (logo optional)
- Black or grey trousers, skirt or shorts.
- White or pale blue polo shirt (logo optional)

For PE:

- Pupils should wear appropriate clothing on days they have PE i.e black or grey shorts or jogging bottoms with a white or pale blue polo shirt and trainers.

Post 16

Uniform is not mandatory for Post 16. However, any items of clothing worn for school should not impact on learning and should not have inappropriate images/slogans visible.

Underwear should not be visible.

4.2 Where to purchase Foxfield Schools uniform

Items of uniform containing the school logo can be purchased from Design Stitch (in Moreton) or the Uniform Shop (in Birkenhead).

Please contact the school office for more information.

Other items of non-branded uniform can be purchased from any high street shop or supermarket.

Foxfield accepts any preloved and pre-worn uniform which our pupils have outgrown. These are then shared with parents free of charge via our communication channels, Class Dojo and is coordinated by our Family support Team.

If you have any donations or require assistance please contact our family support team:

familysupport@foxfieldschool.co.uk

4.3 Jewellery and accessories

To ensure the safety and wellbeing of all pupils:

- Jewellery should be kept to a minimum - small stud earrings and watches are acceptable.
- All jewellery must be removed for PE and swimming for safety.
- Hair accessories should be safe and comfortable - we prioritise safety over colour matching.
- Long hair should be tied back where possible for safety and hygiene.

We understand that:

- Some pupils may find jewellery or hair accessories distressing and should not wear them.
- Some pupils may struggle to remove jewellery independently - We ask that if your child is unable to do this independently then they do not wear these items on days they have swimming or My Health and Wellbeing for safety.
- Some pupils may need specific accessories for sensory or medical reasons - please discuss this with us.

For any concerns about jewellery or accessories please contact the Headteacher via the school office.

4.4 Swimming kit

For Swimming:

Pupils should bring a swimming kit on the day they have access to the swimming pool.

- A one piece swimming costume or shorts
- Towel
- Swimming aids (optional)
- Goggles (optional)
- Additional personal care items may also need to be provided based on pupils' needs

Foxfield respects that some families may require adaptations to swimwear for religious or cultural reasons. Please contact the Headteacher, via the school office to discuss appropriate alternatives such as modest swimwear or burkinis.

For pupils with specific medical or SEND needs that require adaptations to swimming kit, please speak to a member of the schools management team/Pathway Leader.

4.5 Outdoor learning kit

Learning often takes place outside of the classroom and for this we ask;

- Wellies
- Waterproof trousers and jacket

4.6 Extreme weather provision

Hot weather:

- Pupils may wear sun hats (preferably with wide brims or neck protection).
- We encourage parents to apply long-lasting suncream before school.
- Pupils may bring sunglasses for outdoor play/learning.
- Pupils should bring a water bottle to stay hydrated.

Cold weather:

- Pupils should wear appropriate outdoor coats - we do not specify particular styles or colours.
- Hats, scarves and gloves are encouraged during cold weather.
- Layers under uniforms are acceptable to keep warm.

We encourage outdoor learning and play in all weathers, so please ensure that your child has appropriate clothing for the season. We understand that some pupils may have difficulty regulating their body temperature or may have sensory sensitivities to certain weather conditions - please speak to us about any specific needs.

4.7 Lost property and labelling

To help us reunite lost items with their owners:

- All uniform, PE kit and swimming kit must be clearly labelled with your child's name. We ask that pupil names are not embroidered on the front of clothes for safety reasons.
- Lost property is stored in the school office.
- Parents/carers are welcome to check lost property at any time by contacting the school office.
- Unlabelled items will be kept for half a term before being added to our uniform exchange scheme with our Family Support Team or donated to charity.

4.8 Spare clothing and changing

We understand that our pupils may need changes of clothing during the day for various reasons including:

- Toileting accidents

- Sensory regulation needs
- Messy learning activities
- Medical needs

We ask parents/carers to:

- Provide a clearly labelled bag for spare clothes to keep at school.
- Include comfortable, easy-to-wear items that your child can manage independently where possible.
- Update spare clothes as your child grows or seasons change.
- Let us know if your child has specific clothing preferences or sensitivities.
- Wash and return any items belonging to the school at your earliest convenience.

School will:

- Store spare clothing safely and accessibly.
- Support pupils to change with appropriate dignity and privacy.
- Return soiled clothing in a yellow bag.
- Keep a small supply of emergency spare uniform/clothing for unexpected situations.
- Never make a pupil feel embarrassed about needing to change.

If your child frequently needs changes of clothing please speak to your child's class teacher so we can work together to understand and support their needs.

5. Expectations for Foxfield School community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days), where possible (please see expectations above) 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).

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents/carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform, PE kit and swimming kit and that every item is:

- Clean.
- Clearly labelled with their child's name.
- In good condition.

Parents/carers are expected to contact the Headteacher, via the school office, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics.
- The cost of the uniform.
- Their SEND or medical needs.

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes regarding the cost of the uniform will be:

- Resolved locally.
- Dealt with in accordance with our School's complaints policy.

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils and work with families to make sure they are wearing appropriate clothes/uniform for school. They will follow up any concerns with the Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

In cases where it is suspected 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.

5.4 Governors

The governing 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 governing board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

5.5 Supporting families with uniform costs

Foxfield understands that the cost of uniforms can be a challenge for some families. We are committed to supporting all families and offer:

Uniform Exchange Scheme:

- Pre-loved uniform items available through our Family Support Team.
- Donations of outgrown uniform gratefully accepted.
- No questions asked - simply contact our family Support Team:
familysupport@foxfieldschool.co.uk

Financial support:

- If you are experiencing financial difficulty, please speak to our Headteacher or our Family Support Team in confidence.
- Information about other sources of support e.g. local authority grants are available from the school office.

We encourage parents to use Wirral FUSS (Free UniformS for Schools)

[Wirral FUSS](#)

Foxfield will never:

- Exclude a pupil from school due to uniform issues.
- Remove a pupil from class or isolate them from their peers because of their uniform.
- Publicly identify or shame pupils who are not wearing the correct uniform.

5.6 Managing non-compliance

We recognise that for many of our pupils, wearing school uniform may be challenging due to sensory needs, motor skill development, communication difficulties or other SEND-related factors.

Foxfield's approach is always supportive, flexible and individualised:

- Foxfield will never discipline a pupil for uniform issues.
- Foxfield will never exclude a pupil from learning, play or interactions because of their clothing.
- Foxfield understands that some pupils may need to wear different clothing for comfort, safety or medical reasons.
- Foxfield prioritises your child's wellbeing and ability to access learning over uniform compliance.

If your child is struggling with uniform:

1. Please talk to us - contact your child's class teacher, Pathway Lead or Headteacher.
2. We will work together to find clothing that works for your child while maintaining the spirit of our uniform policy where possible.
3. Foxfield can provide support through our uniform exchange or by sourcing sensory-friendly alternatives.
4. Adjustments can be temporary or permanent depending on your child's needs.

We understand that:

- Some pupils may need to wear specific clothing for sensory regulation.
- Getting dressed is a learning process and accidents happen.
- Some families may need spare clothing kept at school.
- Uniform expectations may need to be adjusted on difficult days.

Foxfield commitment:

Every child deserves to feel comfortable and ready to learn. Uniform will never be a barrier to this.

5.7 Medical and SEND considerations

Foxfield recognises that many of our pupils require adaptations to the uniform policy due to special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) or medical conditions. Foxfield is committed to being flexible and putting our pupils comfort, safety and wellbeing first.

Common reasonable adjustments include:

- Sensory-friendly alternatives - different fabrics, tagless clothing, seamless socks, loose fitting items.
- Specialist footwear for medical conditions or orthotics.
- Adapted fastenings - velcro, elastic waists, or magnetic closures to support independence.
- Modified PE and swimming kit for physical disabilities or sensory needs.
- Alternative colours or styles if specific colours or clothing types cause distress.
- Allowances for medical equipment - feeding tubes, catheters, splints etc.
- Clothing that accommodates pads or continence products with dignity.
- Simplified uniform - fewer items or layers for pupils who struggle with dressing.

Foxfields approach:

- Flexibility is our priority - we will always work with families to find solutions.
- No pupil will be disadvantaged by uniform requirements.
- Adjustments can be requested at any time and will be implemented quickly.
- We will regularly review adjustments as your child's needs change.
- All staff are informed of individual adjustments to ensure consistency.

To request or discuss adjustments, contact the Headteacher via the school office. We welcome informal conversations and are happy to problem-solve together.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed at least every 3 years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by governors.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Relationships Policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy

8. Review

Regular review

This policy will be reviewed at least every 3 years, or sooner if:

There are significant changes to statutory guidance.

We receive feedback suggesting the policy needs updating.

There are changes to our uniform suppliers or costs.