



School uniform policy

September 2026

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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 all 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: age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform, depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with our Inclusion Lead, Mrs Heijne, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 or fewer.
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible, for example, by only asking that the jumper/cardigan, features the school logo.
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as using bibs
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 School Uniform Aims

Our policy for school uniform is based on the notion 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
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and is considered as good value for money
- Is designed with health and safety in mind

4.2 Our school's uniform

Caldecote Primary School uniform consists of:

- Red polo shirt with embroidered school logo
- Navy blue sweatshirt, cardigan or fleece with embroidered school logo
- School trousers, shorts, skirts or pinafores - black, charcoal, grey or navy
- Black all over, leather or leather-effect, hard-soled school shoes with black laces.
- Socks / tights should be plain in black, grey, navy, red or white.
- Blue gingham dress for summer
- Book bag or rucksack
- Warm coat in winter and lightweight raincoat in summer
- Plain, single-coloured sandals (white, navy blue, black or tan) may be worn in summer.

PE kit

- Red T-shirt printed with school logo
- Plain black or navy shorts
- Plain black or navy sweatshirt
- Plain black or navy jogging bottoms
- A one-piece costume or above-knee shorts for swimming lessons (Year 5 and Year 6)
- Trainers are to be worn for outside PE. There is no requirement for shoes to be worn indoor – PE and Dance will be taught barefoot.
- Specific kit for sports competitions will be loaned by the school. If pupils don't wish to wear, or are unable to wear a loaned item, they may wear a suitable alternative.

Branded items are optional but preferred.

4.3 School Uniform Rules

- School uniform must be named.
- One small pair of studded earrings are permitted. These must be able to be removed for PE lessons, including swimming.
- Children may wear a wristwatch, marked with the owner's name. The pupil must be responsible for their watch as the school is not responsible for damage or loss of personal property.
- Children may wear simple hair bands and scrunchies in school colours, but children should be discouraged from wearing fancy hair bands as some designs could cause injury.
- Hairstyles must be sensible and appropriate for school; extreme haircuts are not acceptable. All hair must be tied back for PE including swimming.
- If, in the winter, boots are worn to school, then a pair of school shoes must be brought to school for the child to change into.

Children should NOT wear:

- Make-up, including nail varnish.
- Canvas shoes, high heels or shoes with coloured soles.
- Trainers, except for sports activities.
- Sports branded clothing during the normal school day.
- Smartwatches (please see our Mobile Device Policy)

4.4 Where to purchase or acquire our uniform

Branded items

Branded sweatshirts, polo shirts, PE T-shirts, zip-up fleeces, book bags and PE bags can be purchased from the school's online uniform services:

www.myclothing.com

www.yourschooluniform.com

Unbranded items

Unbranded school uniform items can be purchased from most supermarkets and clothing retailers.

Pre-loved uniform

The PTA have a pre-loved uniform shop available where a range of good quality school uniform items can be purchased. By giving uniforms a second life, we are reducing waste, supporting a greener future and teaching children about sustainability. All proceeds go to the PTA fund which benefits the school.

Pre-loved uniform can be purchased in the summer term at our pre-loved uniform event (whole school), and our new-intake parents meeting (for children who are starting in Reception).

It can also be bought via our online shop: <https://caldecote-school-pta-shop.sumupstore.com/>

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

Pupils are also expected to contact our Inclusion Lead, Mrs Heijne, 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/carers are also expected to contact our Inclusion Lead, Mrs Heijne, 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/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy. Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be 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 to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the 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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory guidance.

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/carers, 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 every three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement

- Complaints policy
- Mobile Device policy

Appendix 1 – Footwear examples

Acceptable:



Not acceptable:

