Brabourne CEP School
Uniform Policy
October 2026

PURPOSE OF A UNIFORM POLICY:

A school uniform:

- Gives our children a sense of unity, belonging and pride in our school, which assists in building the caring, family ethos the school is so proud of.
- Ensures that our children are safely dressed for school activities and the environment.
- Minimises competition between the children to wear more expensive or fashionable clothing and the pressure on parents to purchase this type of clothing, whilst encouraging equity among pupils.
- Clearly identifies Brabourne CEP School pupils from other children who may encounter our school.
- Fosters and enhances the public image of the school.

The school follows its legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on gender, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- Make sure that uniform choices do not create unjustified differences in cost between pupils
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.
- Make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils, including sensory needs, and consider adaptations for SEND, medical needs and religion or belief. Parents/carers should contact the Headteacher or SENCo.

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 on the cost of school uniform.

We understand 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 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
- Requiring no compulsory branded items. From 1 September 2026, primary schools may require no more than three branded items per pupil, including PE kit and bags across the school year.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Providing optional sports kit for signalling school identity in inter-school competitions; suitable plain alternatives are permitted
- Encouraging parents to acquire second-hand items and helping to facilitate this process. Second-hand uniform will be accessible to current and prospective families through the PTA.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Engaging with parents and pupils on costs when developing or changing uniform requirements, consulting on significant changes and considering feedback and complaints before the governing body decides
- Reviewing individual and total uniform costs, particularly jumpers and PE kit, to avoid unnecessary expense.

Brabourne CEP School Uniform

A feeling of school unity is enhanced by the wearing of a uniform. Garments without the school logo are permitted, provided they meet the colours and styles below. All school logos are optional, including on PE kit and bags.

Every part of a child's uniform, including PE kit should be clearly labelled with the child's name. The clothing options below are required unless described as optional or seasonal; pupils may choose from the listed alternatives.

Tops

White shirt/blouse

Navy Pullover / cardigan / jumper (*optional school logo available from Brigade Clothing*)

Tie

Optional

Bottoms

Grey or navy trousers or shorts (for the summer)

Grey or navy skirt (no shorter than knee length)

Dresses

Blue/white gingham dress (for the summer)

Footwear

Smart, black shoes

Socks / tights (white / grey)

Physical Education

White T-shirts

P.E jumper/jogging bottoms (optional for colder weather, navy or black if possible)

Plain black/navy shorts

Black Plimsolls (for indoor)

Trainers (for outdoor)

Children should not do P.E in tights so a spare pair of socks will be needed for P.E days.

The Headteacher may relax uniform requirements during extreme weather for comfort and safety. On non-uniform days, ordinary suitable clothes are acceptable; donations are voluntary and participation will not depend on payment.

Where to purchase it

Optional school-logo jumpers/cardigans can be purchased from Brigade Clothing: https://www.brigade.uk.com/parents/school/BR5391DS/

Optional ties and school book bags are available from the school office.

Plain versions of all clothing and PE kit can be purchased from any retailer, including high street shops and supermarkets, provided they meet the requirements above.

Monitoring

Staff will discuss uniform difficulties sensitively with families, consider reasons outside the pupil's control and allow reasonable time to resolve them. Any further response by the Headteacher will be fair, proportionate and consistent with the behaviour policy and agreed adjustments.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by speaking to the parents and carers.

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. Families can contact the school office or Headteacher confidentially for support. Pupils will not miss lessons or activities because their family cannot afford uniform. Uniform-related bullying will be addressed.

Jewellery

Children can become very distressed when they lose or break jewellery. Jewellery can also be an item that is a fashion statement or can cause inequity amongst the pupils. Jewellery such as necklaces, rings, bracelets etc. must not be worn to school. (Medic alert bracelets are of course allowed in school). Inexpensive, simple wrist watches can be worn (not smart watches). Religious items will be considered individually with the Headteacher, with proportionate safety arrangements.

Earrings

- In the interest of safety, earrings should be of the small sleeper or stud variety.

- Earrings must be removed for PE sessions. The taping of ears is not acceptable for health and safety reasons.
- If a child cannot remove their own earrings it should be done so at home on the day the child has PE. Staff are not permitted to remove earrings. Children will take part in a related activity if their earrings are not removed on such days.
- If a parent is considering having their child's ears pierced they should be encouraged to do so at the very start of the summer break, as in most cases they are unable to remove them for the first six weeks.

Make-up and /or coloured nail polish is not appropriate in school.

Hairstyles and accessories

Hair should be neatly groomed and kept out of the eyes. Shoulder length or longer hair should be kept tied back from the face. Simple hair bands should be used. Large bows, flowers and jewellery on hair bands are not appropriate for school wear. Plain bands and small bows (preferably school colours) are acceptable. Hair rules will respect natural hair textures and protective styles and must not discriminate on grounds of race, religion or disability.

Pupils may bring plain or school-logo book bags and PE bags. Backpacks are allowed but should not be too large, as they can become a hazard in the corridor and classroom. No school-branded bag is required.

Pupils are encouraged to bring their own named plastic water bottles to school to sip from throughout the day. These should be filled with water only, unless the child has a medical problem requiring them to drink something else. Pupils should take their water bottles home every night to be cleaned.

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

Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an individual adjustment or an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

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

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

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

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

Review

Next review: October 2027, or sooner if guidance changes. The governing body will review this policy and the school will publish it on the website.

Guidance used: Department for Education (updated July 2026): Cost of school uniforms; Developing school uniform policy; Procuring school uniform supplies.