

**DOWNSVIEW PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**UNIFORM POLICY**



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Signed on behalf of the Governing Board \_\_\_\_\_ Chair of Governors

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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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 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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
- 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils 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 pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

### 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 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.
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- 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.
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

#### 4. Expectations for School Uniform

##### **Our School's Uniform**

We are proud of our school uniform, which makes the children look smart and fosters a sense of belonging to the Downsview family. All children at Downsview are expected to wear formal school uniform, with adaptations for children attending the Nursery.

As a school community, we endeavour to be inclusive and welcoming; therefore, our uniform requirements are not defined by gender. The cost of this is kept as low as possible by not specifying a particular design from one retailer.

The nearest local supplier for branded items of uniform is Bubblegum Children's and School Wear, 113 High Street, Thornton Heath, Surrey, CR7 8RZ. Telephone: 020 8683 2773. The school also arranges a termly second-hand uniform sale, details of which are published in the School Newsletter and on the Website. If a parent/carer wishes to enquire about second-hand uniform at any other time, they should contact the school office.

##### **Reception, Key Stage 1 (Years 1 & 2) and Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 & 6)**

The standard uniform is based on the colours burgundy and grey and comprises the following items:

- Grey trousers, shorts, or skirt/pinafore
- White shirt or white polo shirt
- Burgundy school jumper or sweatshirt (with or without school logo) or cardigan
- Hijabs, if worn, should be in plain black or burgundy
- Summer dress in pink and white or red and white gingham
- Black closed shoes with flat heels or dark trainers (black, navy, or dark grey) only (no open-toed sandals). Shoes or trainers should be suitable for school wear for safety reasons.
- There is also an optional school fleece and sweatshirt available only from Bubblegum.

We expect the children to wear a sensible coat and other items of outdoor clothing, including hats, scarves and gloves, when the weather is cold. It is not necessary for these items to be in the school colours.

## Nursery

Children in the nursery should wear the Downsvie navy tracksuit bottoms with a white polo shirt or house-coloured t-shirt. The children may either wear the Downsvie navy tracksuit jacket or a burgundy school jumper/cardigan (with or without school logo). Nursery children are not required to wear the formal school uniform. Children in the nursery must wear trainers or shoes that are suitable for outdoor play/apparatus. Nursery children will require at least one house-coloured t-shirt (with or without logo) to wear at sporting events, such as the school Sports Day.

## PE Kit – Nursery to Year 6

Games and PE (including swimming when appropriate) are compulsory subjects and children are required to wear the correct kit, comprising:

- Red, Blue, Yellow or Green House T-shirt (with or without school logo)
- Downsvie navy blue tracksuit bottoms and jacket- *the children may either wear the navy tracksuit jacket or a burgundy school jumper/cardigan (with or without school logo)*
- Black shorts (**appropriate length**) or plain black leggings (under tracksuit if appropriate)
- Black trainers or plimsolls (please note that gymnastics is done barefoot)

Every pupil at Downsvie belongs to one of the following school houses: Red, Blue, Yellow or Green and parents will be informed of their child's house colour once admitted to the school House coloured T-shirts with a school logo are optional and available from Bubblegum.

## All Children in Years Reception to Year 6

All children in our school must wear their PE kit to school on days when they have PE. There is no need to bring a change of clothes, as the children can remain in their Downsvie navy tracksuits all day. These days, children may wear either the Downsvie navy tracksuit jacket or a burgundy school jumper/cardigan (with or without school logo). On days when they are not on the timetable to have PE, they will continue to wear full school uniform, as usual.

All children registered to attend a before or after-school extra-curricular Sports Club are also permitted to attend school in their Downsvie navy tracksuit and House t-shirt. In warmer weather, children are able to come into school in their black PE shorts or black leggings instead of their tracksuit bottoms on the days when they have PE or are registered to attend a Sports Club.

If children are wearing trainers to school on a PE day, parents/carers are asked to be mindful of the weather, as the children will be taking part in outdoor games and may need a change of shoes/trainers if the weather has been wet.

We request that long hair (shoulder length) is tied back for reasons of health and safety. Make-up and nail varnish are not permitted. Children are not permitted to wear jewellery to school. If ears are pierced, children are only allowed to wear small plain studs.

## Branded and Non-Branded Uniform

All pupils must wear the following items of uniform, which are branded with the school logo (available from Bubblegum):

- Downsvie navy blue tracksuit bottoms

All pupils require a burgundy school jumper or cardigan and house T-shirt (with or without a school logo). Jumpers, cardigans and T-shirts branded with the school logo are available from Bubblegum, but

parents/carers have the option of sourcing generic items instead of purchasing branded items through other high street retailers:

- Burgundy school jumper or cardigan
- House T-shirts (red, blue, yellow or green)

The following items of uniform are branded with the school logo and are only available from Bubblegum, but are optional:

- School fleece
- School sweatshirt

All pupils will require a burgundy School Book Bag, a branded version is available from the School Office, at a reasonable cost. Children may also bring a burgundy Satchel (branded version available from Bubblegum) into school for carrying other equipment/water bottles, etc. into school. No rucksacks or bags of any other kind should be brought into school.

### Summary of Uniform Requirements:

- **Compulsory Branded Items:** Downview navy blue tracksuit bottoms
- **Optional Branded Items:** Downview navy blue tracksuit jacket, PE House coloured t-shirts, school jumper/cardigan, school fleece, school sweatshirt, Downview book bag or satchel (if opting for non-branded, must be burgundy).
- **Non-Branded Options:** Burgundy school jumper or cardigan, burgundy sweatshirt and house coloured T-shirts which can be sourced from other retailers.

All non-branded uniform can be purchased from most leading supermarkets.

## 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 (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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 are also expected to contact the Headteacher 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 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.

### **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 does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Senior Leadership Team.

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.

### **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 ensure that the school's uniform supplier makes arrangements to give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

## **6. Monitoring Arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every two years. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Board.

## **7. Links to Other Policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Diversity and Inclusion Policy, including Equality Statement
- Anti-bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy