Barnett Wood Infant School

School Uniform Policy 2026-28

Barnett Wood Infant School
213, Barnett Wood Lane,
Ashtead KT21 2DF

Barnett Wood Infant School

Policy Impact Statement and Updates

Policy:	School Uniform Policy
Date of review:	September 2026
Governor/s responsible:	Claire Brooke-Wilson / Guy Bailey
Status / date of next review:	Every 2 years - September 2028
How well has the policy achieved its purpose and outcomes?	
By having a School Uniform Policy at Barnett Wood, we ensure we are: • promoting the ethos of a school • providing a sense of belonging and identity • setting an appropriate tone for education	
Updates and/ or changes to policy:	
September 2026	Policy updated to reflect July 2026 DfE guidance on school uniforms and statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms. Developing school uniform policy - GOV.UK Clarified compliance with branded item limits, strengthened references to second-hand uniform provision, support for families experiencing financial hardship, equality considerations relating to hairstyles, and governance oversight of the policy.
September 2024	Policy has been reviewed to ensure it meets guidance in DfE Developing school uniform policy - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) and Cost of school uniforms - GOV.UK (www.gov.uk) - no changes made.

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils and or staff with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

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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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- 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 and makes them feel comfortable and included. The school will not discriminate against pupils because of hair texture, hair type, religious hairstyles or protective hairstyles associated with race or ethnicity, provided hair is worn safely for school activities.
- 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

The school will comply with all current statutory requirements relating to school uniform costs and branded items. The school will not require more compulsory branded items than permitted under current legislation and will keep branded items to the absolute minimum necessary to promote school identity.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible, for example, by only asking that the jumper features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as plain jumpers, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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 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

4.1 Our school's uniform

Our school uniform comprises:

Winter uniform:	**Summer Uniform:**
Grey trousers or shorts	Grey shorts or skirt
Grey skirt or pinafore	White polo shirt or white blouse/shirt
White polo shirts or white blouse/shirt	Green and white dresses.
Green sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper	Green sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper
Grey, white or green socks	Grey, white or green socks
Black school shoes (no trainers)	Black school shoes (no trainers)
PE Kit	
Plain white t-shirt (available with school logo from office)	

Plain dark coloured shorts Black plimsolls or plain black/white trainers In winter months, children need dark coloured tracksuit bottoms and jumper/hoodie for outdoor PE.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Most items can be bought from high street retailers or chain stores.
- Green sweatshirts, cardigans or jumpers with the school logo can be purchased from the School office.
- Our Friends of Barnett Wood Association arranges second-hand uniform sales throughout the year. Information about obtaining second-hand uniform is available from the school office and through school communications. The school actively promotes access to affordable second-hand uniform wherever possible.

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)

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

Where families experience financial hardship, parents/carers are encouraged to contact the Headteacher confidentially to discuss available support and access to second-hand uniform. The school will seek to support families wherever reasonably possible.

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 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.

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 board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, comply with current statutory guidance, and minimise the number of compulsory branded items required. Where supplier contracts are used, the governing board will regularly review arrangements to ensure best value for families.

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6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Headteacher and approved by the Governing Board. The policy may also be reviewed sooner where changes in legislation, statutory guidance or school circumstances require it.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy