



Beulah Road • Thornton Heath • Croydon • CR7 8JF Tel 020 8653 4921 E-mail: office@beulah-jun.croydon.sch.uk



School Uniform Policy

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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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, 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 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 most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- > 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 to get in touch with the Head Teacher, 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 <u>guidance</u> 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, by only asking that the jumper or cardigan feature the school logo

- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- > 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

At Beulah Junior School we have always been very proud of the appearance and conduct of the majority of our pupils both in school and outside. Our aim is that children should appear neat and tidy, take pride in their appearance, and dress in a manner that is appropriate for their work at school.

It is also our aim to discourage unnecessary and expensive competition in matters of appearance, thus avoiding pressures, or an extra expense for parents. We therefore ask all parents to support us by keeping to the prescribed Beulah Junior School uniform. A detailed list of uniform can be found below. If you wish to purchase the school jumper with our school logo, these are available at Bubble Gum Uniform shop on Thornton Heath High Street. All other items can be purchased at any children's clothing store (including supermarkets). Please remember that all items must be **plain** with **only the school logo on the school jumper or cardigan.**

<u>Winter</u>

- grey/black trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- red school sweatshirt or red cardigan
- white polo shirt
- plain black sensible shoes
- white/black/grey socks
- navy, grey or red tights
- plain black shoes

P.E. Kit for Winter

- plain black jogging bottoms or sports leggings
- plain back or white t-shirt
- plain black plimsolls or plain black trainers
- red school sweatshirt or red cardigan

Summer (as in Winter)

- grey/black short trousers
- blue or red and white checked/ striped dress

P.E. Kit for Summer

- plain black shorts, jogging bottoms or sports leggings
- plain back or white t-shirt
- plain black plimsolls or plain black trainers
- red school sweatshirt or red cardigan

Hair, Jewellery and Accessories

- No jewellery allowed except during PE.
- Watches to be analogue or digital. No smart watches.
- For Health and Safety reasons all long hair must be tied back whilst in school.
- Hair accessories are to be kept to a discreet minimum neither large bows nor headbands with decorative pieces are allowed.
- Dyed hair or shaved tramlines are not allowed.
- Nail varnish should not be worn in school.

For safety reasons - wrist watches and stud earrings MUST be removed and given to the class teacher for safe keeping. Other types of jewellery e.g. necklaces, bracelets, etc. are not allowed in school. Similarly, at no time are children allowed to wear long trousers or tights for P.E. Lessons unless specifically requested by parents. Girls are allowed to wear leggings at the class teacher's discretion.

4.2 Where to purchase it

The school jumper or cardigan can be purchased at:

Bubblegum Schoolwear

113 High St, Thornton Heath CR7 8RZ

All other items can be purchased at any children's clothing store (including 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 Head Teacher 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 Head teacher 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 and this will be communicated via a text message from the school office. If the situation doesn't improve, there will be a follow up with the Head Teacher.

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, 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 two years by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the finance committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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