UNIFORM POLICY 2026 - 2027

Approved by: Learning and Achievement

Date: October 2026

Chair of Committee: Mrs S Elliott

Headteacher: Mrs N Grimster

Greasby Infant School is committed to promoting a positive work-life balance for all staff.

Next review due in September 2027, or earlier if required



Greasby Infant School Vision & Ethos

Growing Minds
We help all children develop and grow in line with their individual talents and interests. We provide fun, stimulating learning opportunities that develop a curiosity for learning in inspiring and creative ways. We encourage all children to become resilient and independent learners fostering an attitude of consideration and responsibility towards others and their surroundings.

Happy Hearts
We aim to ensure all children develop a love of school through our nurturing environment. We care about the well-being of our pupils and their families and take a holistic approach to their overall development. Through constant engagement with children, parents and the local community, we help our children develop meaningful relationships and a sense of belonging allowing them to feel happy and safe.

Bright Futures
We provide an exciting, active curriculum that challenges all children to develop key knowledge and skills for the future and achieve their full potential. We offer a range of diverse opportunities within our curriculum through languages and outdoor learning, encouraging children to explore their future passions and leave Greasby Infant School ready to take on the world.

Statement of Intent

Greasby Infant School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances. This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families. We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:
• Education and Inspections Act 2006
• Education Act 2011
• Human Rights Act 1998
• Equality Act 2010
• Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026
• The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
• Data Protection Act 2018
• Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:
• DfE 'Cost of school uniforms'
• DfE 'School Admissions Code'
• DfE 'School uniforms'

Roles and Responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is appropriate, practical, accessible and affordable for all pupils, taking account of the cost of individual compulsory items and the overall cost of the uniform, including PE kit and any clothing required for school activities.
- Ensuring that the number of compulsory branded items of school uniform and PE kit does not exceed the statutory limit and that all branded items are kept to a minimum.
- Giving high priority to the cost and value for money of the school uniform and being able to demonstrate how best value for money has been achieved when developing or reviewing the uniform policy and supply arrangements.
- Ensuring that arrangements are in place for current and prospective parents to acquire second-hand uniform in a timely and accessible way, and that information about these arrangements is published on the school website.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

• Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
• Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.

• Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
• Providing pupils with an exemption as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Staff members are responsible for:
• Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
• Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:
• Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
• Informing the headteacher if their child requires an amendment or an exemption to the uniform rules, including where this relates to a protected characteristic, disability, medical need or other individual circumstance
• Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.
• Informing the school where they are experiencing difficulty meeting the cost of the uniform.
• Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

Cost principles

The school will develop its uniform policy in relation to the following starting principles:

- The school will seek to ensure that the uniform is affordable. In so doing, the school will consider the cost of individual compulsory items and the total cost of the school uniform, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school.
- The school will ensure that no individual item is unnecessarily high cost and will take reasonable steps to minimise costs.
- The use of branded uniform items will be minimised in accordance with the branded items section of this policy.
- The school will seek to ensure that uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, including the quality and durability of the garment.
- The school will seek to ensure that second-hand uniforms are available for parents to acquire. Information on second-hand uniforms and when they will be available to be purchased will be published on the school's website.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

• Economically disadvantaged parents.
• Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
• Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
• Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
• CLA and PCLA.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school does not make any branded uniform mandatory. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Parents are given the option to purchase specific items of branded uniform.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

Where changes to uniform specifications are necessary, the school will take reasonable steps to minimise the financial impact on parents, e.g. by allowing pupils to continue wearing existing uniform for a reasonable period where appropriate.

The above consideration to cost will also apply to the school's PE kit and clothing required for extracurricular activities. The school will avoid requiring additional uniform specifically for extracurricular activities or interschool competitions wherever possible. No pupil should feel unable to fully participate in PE, extracurricular activities or represent their class or the school because the required clothing is too expensive.

Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously.

In line with the above, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any significant changes to school uniform and will consider how proposed requirements may affect different groups represented within the school, particularly pupils who share protected characteristics or who may require adaptations or reasonable adjustments.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school will implement a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils will not be required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. The school will consider individual requests for adaptations to uniform requirements where

necessary, including requests relating to gender reassignment or gender identity, taking account of its obligations under equality and human rights law.

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain religion, belief or culture, the school will ensure that there is flexibility to allow pupils to present themselves in a way that adheres to their dress requirements as far as possible, within the school's uniform policy.

The school will act reasonably through consultation and dialogue when considering requests for adaptations to accommodate religious or belief requirements. Restrictions will only be imposed where justified, e.g. because of genuine health and safety, security, cohesion or good-order considerations.

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils of a certain race, the school will ensure that its uniform policy does not constitute unlawful indirect discrimination through blanket rules. This includes:

- Not banning hairstyles related to a pupil's ethnic origin, e.g. natural Afro hairstyles.
- Not banning hairstyles worn because of cultural, family and social customs, e.g. cornrows.
- Not banning head coverings related to a pupil's culture or ethnic origin, e.g. African heritage head wraps.

The school will follow the good practice guidance provided by the Equality and Human Rights Commission on 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'.

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will ensure its uniform policy takes into account the needs of these pupils. This includes:

- What flexibilities, adaptations, adjustments or alternatives might mitigate any negative impact on these pupils.
- Adopting a more comfortable or less restrictive uniform.
- Determining a more flexible policy that allows pupils to choose from a range of items so they feel more comfortable.

Where a pupil's needs cannot be met through the standard uniform requirements, the school will consider individual adaptations or alternatives. The school will make reasonable adjustments for disabled pupils where necessary to avoid unlawful discrimination.

Complaints and Challenges

The school will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy. The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Procedures Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein.

When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome. Where the subject of a complaint relates to a pupil's protected characteristic, the governing board will carefully consider requests to vary this policy.

School uniform supplier

If parents wish to have a branded jumper/cardigan these can be bought online from e.g. Stitch Design or you can have logo's applied on supermarket purchases in the sports shop near Wood Lane, in Overchurch, in Carr Lane, Hoylake and at the uniform shop in Birkenhead. Second hand uniform can also be obtained from: Wirral F.U.P.S. https://wirralfuss.co.uk/

Uniform assistance

The school holds pre-loved school uniforms for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the headteacher. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

Non-compliance

The Headteacher or Deputy will speak to parents if any issues arise regarding uniform breaches or if parents have any issues in sending their child into school. A considerate approach will be used where financial hardship or other circumstances outside the pupil's control may be the reason for non-compliance. The school will work with the pupil and their family to resolve the situation and provide or signpost appropriate support where necessary.

GREASBY INFANT SCHOOL UNIFORM

Winter Uniform

- Grey trousers, grey skirt or grey pinafore
- White polo shirt
- School royal blue sweatshirt, royal blue jumper or royal blue cardigan

Summer Uniform

- As winter or can wear grey shorts or a checked or striped summer dress
- White short sleeved polo shirt
- School royal blue sweatshirt, royal blue jumper or royal blue cardigan

Note: Royal blue sweatshirts, sweaters or cardigans do not have to have the school logo on, although many do choose this option, some parents also have their child's initials embroidered onto their clothes so they are more easily recognised.

Shoes

We request that children wear formal footwear and not training shoes, boots or high heeled shoes. Velcro straps are easier for children – laces or buckles are not advised.

P.E. Kit

The following kit should be worn on PE Days:

- White T-shirt
- Black shorts/leggings/jogging bottoms
- Black pumps or trainers
- School jumper or cardigan

Other Information

- All children should be provided with a named **water** bottle

- Hats or caps should be brought to school in sunny weather
- Coats will be needed for play times in cooler months

Jewellery

For safety reasons, no jewellery should be worn apart from studded earrings in the school at any time.

After receiving new and important health and safety (H&S) guidance on the wearing of earrings in school, after thoughtful debate, we have changed the school policy in this regard. We are no longer allowed to accept tape over earrings for P.E. lessons – earrings must be removed. It is vital that Parents / Carers take full responsibility for the removal of your child's earrings at home.

Exceptions to the school's jewellery requirements will be considered where necessary, e.g. for religious, cultural or medical reasons.

School bag

Children will not need rucksacks. Please do not bring in umbrellas or large rucksacks. School will provide a school book bag for the children to bring to and from school; this is usually all your child will need in addition to a water bottle. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics.

Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

Adverse weather

The school will take a sensible and flexible approach to uniform requirements during extreme or adverse weather, particularly where the UK Health Security Agency has issued a weather-health alert. Pupils will be permitted to make appropriate adaptations to their uniform to remain safe and comfortable.

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather. For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

• Sun hat
• Loose-fitting and lightweight shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
• Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
• Tops that cover the shoulder area.

Pupils are advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:
• Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
• Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.
• Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name. Any lost clothing is be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a few weeks and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time. Name labels help to reduce lost property and ensure your child returns home with their own uniform and not someone else's.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the governors or as needed.