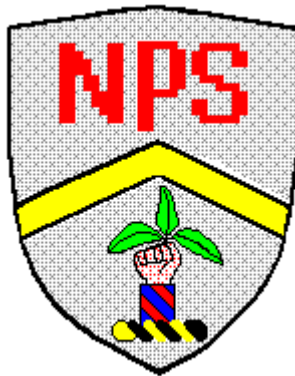


School uniform policy

Nettlesworth Primary School



Approved by:	Aaron O’Roarty	Date: June 2026
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Last reviewed on:	June 2026
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Next review due by:	Sep 2026
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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 all 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: age, sex, sexual orientation, 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
- › Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- › Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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
- › 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/carers to get in touch with Donna Lee, Head Teacher 01913710444, 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 [guidance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- › Is available at a reasonable cost
- › Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- › Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of:
 - T shirt, shorts/leggings and trainers
- › Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- › Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- › Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- › Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- › Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- › Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- › Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- › Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- › Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- › Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Our school colour is red.

Most children wear the sweatshirt version of uniform with either a white or red polo shirt underneath. Some however prefer to wear a red fleece or cardigan for girls. We also have a red, lined, waterproof school coat for use in Autumn/ Winter. We encourage the wearing of grey or black skirts or trousers and sensible, low heeled school shoes. We promote independence throughout school, for all of our children. Children need to be able to take off and put on their own shoes without adult support, therefore velcro fastening shoes can be worn by children who are unable to tie shoe laces.

Our school PE kit consists of white t shirt and black shorts with gym shoes or trainers. If your child has pierced ears, they must remove their earrings or cover them for PE due to health and safety purposes. Jewellery is also not to be worn during PE.

We encourage all children to wear the school uniform and we encourage all parents to encourage their children to wear school uniform. Children are expected to come to school clean and neatly dressed.

In KS2, children will take part in weekly swimming lessons- All pupils are expected to attend swimming lessons with the correct kit to ensure safety, hygiene, and full participation in learning.

Required Kit

Pupils must bring the following items on their allocated swimming day:

- A **one-piece swimming costume** (girls) or **close-fitting swimming trunks/shorts above the knee** (boys)
- A **towel**
- A **bag** to store wet items
- A **swimming cap** (if required by the swimming provider or school)

This reflects guidance that swimwear should be appropriate, close-fitting and suitable for safe participation in lessons

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

The school aims to ensure that school uniform is **easily accessible, good value for money and widely available** to all families.

Where to Purchase Uniform

- **Branded items** (such as jumpers/cardigans with the school logo) can be purchased from the school's approved supplier(s):
 - To order uniform for School Children please follow the link below. Orders are placed directly with Tots to Teams but can still be posted to school if this is more convenient. <https://totstoteams.com/schools/nettlesworth-primary-school?search=nettlesworth>
- **Generic items** (e.g. trousers, skirts, shirts, dresses, PE kit without logos) may be purchased from a **range of high street retailers and supermarkets**, enabling families to access affordable options.

The school ensures that arrangements with suppliers provide **best value for money and quality for parents**, in line with Department for Education guidance. [[gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk)]

Online and In-Store Access

Where possible, uniform can be purchased:

- Online via the supplier's website
- In-store at designated retail outlets (where available)

Details of current suppliers and ordering arrangements are available on the school website or from the school office.

Second-Hand Uniform

To support affordability and sustainability:

- The school offers **second-hand uniform**, available through:
 - The school office
 - Termly uniform swap events / community donations (if applicable)
- Donations of good-quality, clean uniform are welcomed from families.

DfE guidance encourages schools to consider cost and ensure access through supportive approaches such as second-hand provision. [ascl.org.uk]

Financial Support

The school is committed to ensuring no pupil is disadvantaged due to uniform costs. Support may include:

- Access to second-hand uniform at no or low cost
- Assistance for families experiencing financial difficulty (via the school office in confidence)

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 Donna Lee Head Teacher 01913710444 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/carers are also expected to contact Donna Lee Head Teacher 0191 3710444 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/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/carers 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 doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by our Behaviour Policy

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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

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/carers, 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 annually by Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Body

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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