

Big Life Schools Uniform Policy

Policy Data Sheet

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1. Aims

This policy aims to support parents and carers of children attending a Big Life School to have access to a uniform that is reasonable in cost and offers the best value for money.

2. 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 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 school office, 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 items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-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 pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes

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- 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
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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. School Uniform

4.1. Our Schools Uniform

Longsight Community Primary	Unity Community Primary
Royal blue Sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo	Dark Grey sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo
White plain polo shirt	White or purple plain polo short
Black Trousers or skirt/pinafore dress	Dark grey trousers or skirt/pinafore dress
Black Footwear	Black footwear
No jewelry except ear studs and a watch	No jewelry except ear studs and a watch
Summer	
Blue gingham check dress	Purple gingham check dress
PE kit	
Plain white polo shirt, plain black shorts/gym skirt/black tracksuit bottoms	Plain white polo shirt, plain black shorts/gym skirt/black tracksuit bottoms

Branded uniform items can be purchased from the school office team. All other items can be purchased from all well-known high street retailers (polo shorts, trousers, skirts/pinafores, shorts)

Secondhand uniform can be obtained from the school at various times, free of charge. Please speak to the family support worker and/or office staff who will clarify which days this will be available.

Other local services that are available to support parents and families include

- Wood Street mission – Uniforms for families with children aged 4-16 who are living in poverty. 01618343140

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5. Expectations

5.1. Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform, other than specific non-school uniform days. This applies to when your child is on the school premises or attending school trips or events, unless otherwise stated.

5.2. Parents & 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 Family Support Worker if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

If you have a complaint or objection about the school uniform, please speak to the family support worker who will support how this can be resolved, in line with our complaints policy.

5.3. Staff

Staff will monitor pupils to ensure the correct uniform is being worn. Staff may speak to the parent/carer if their child continues to wear clothing not in line with this policy, identifying any support or amendments that may be required.

5.4. Governing Committee monitoring arrangements

Our schools governing committees will review this policy and ensure that it is appropriate for the school's context, it is implemented fairly and takes into account the views of parents and pupils.

6. Links to other policies

- Positive relationships and behaviour policy
- Equality policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

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