



Helmshore Primary School

School Uniform Policy

2026 – 2027

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 the headteacher via the school office, 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:
 - 3 or fewer
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible
- 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 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

WINTER

- Navy blue or emerald green sweater, sweatshirt or cardigan
- Navy fleece jackets (optional)
- Sky blue, emerald or white polo shirt
- White blouse or shirt

- Girls – grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers
- Boys – grey trousers or shorts
- Girls – grey tights or white socks
- Boys – grey or black socks
- School shoes (black or navy shoes – no trainers)
- Showerproof jackets

SUMMER

- In addition to the winter uniform items children can also wear:
- Blue and white gingham dress
- Grey shorts NOT football shorts
- **P.E. and Games Kit**

[View our PE Kit](#)

P.E and sport is scheduled for every class, but occasionally the timetable is altered to take into account other activities in school. It is very important that children have a change of clothes for PE and in the juniors for games lessons. All children should have their P.E. Kit available each day.

INFANTS (Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage One)

- Plain white, emerald or blue t-shirt with or without school logo
- Navy or black shorts
- PE pumps
- Sweatshirt or hoodie with or without school logo and jog pants (Key Stage One)

JUNIORS (Key Stage 2)

INDOOR:

- Plain white, emerald or blue t-shirt with or without school logo
- Navy or black shorts
- PE pumps (NOT training shoes)

GAMES (OUTDOOR):

- Sweatshirt or hoodie with or without school logo
- Plain white, emerald or blue t-shirt with or without school logo
- Navy or black shorts
- Training shoes
- Change of socks
- Tracksuit (optional)
- Football boots (optional)
- PE Kit should be in a clearly marked draw string bag.
- Games Kit may be brought in a football-type bag.

Please ensure all school uniform is named.

- We discourage the wearing of jewellery for safety and security reasons. The only item of jewellery that is permitted is a watch which must be removed for PE, games and swimming lessons. Small plain studs are permitted for pierced ears, which must be removed by the parent or child for PE and games. Items with a deep religious significance will be allowed at the discretion of the Headteacher. Nail Polish is not to be worn in school.
- Parents should be aware that we do not permit extremes of fashion in students' hairstyles or dress. Close shaved heads and patterns cut into hair or eyebrows are not acceptable. Very short hairstyles or extreme hairstyles (e.g. where some hair is very short and the rest is not) are not acceptable. Children who have longer hair, may be required to tie it back for health and safety reasons
- Children who represent school in sports competitions are provided with a kit which we then ask is washed and returned to school. If pupils do not wish to wear school kit, they will be allowed to wear a suitable alternative.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

The school policy is for full school uniform (with or without an embroidered school logo), which can be purchased from any retailer including second-hand shops (Age UK, Deardengate, Haslingden). Optional embroidered uniform items can be purchased from Goodies ([Helmshore Primary School | Product categories | \(gooddies.co.uk\)](#)) and PE and second hand uniform items at a discounted price from [Uniformd](#).

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 Headteacher, Mrs C Myers on 01706 213756 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 Headteacher, Mrs C Myers on 01706 213756 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 school's 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 or sooner if deemed necessary by Mrs C Myers, Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Home school agreement

Approved by:		Date: 14 th September 2026
Last reviewed on:	14 th September 2026	
Next review due by:	September 2027	