St. Anne's and Guardian Angels

Excellence Together with Christ at the Centre

Uniform Policy

Approved by:	St Anne's and Guardian Angels Primary School Governing Body	**Date:** September 2026*
Last reviewed:	September 2026	
Next review due by:	September 2029	

**Awaiting ratification by the Local Governing Body*

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 Miss Laxton, Head of School by e-mailing office@stannesgaprimary.com 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, such as ties
- 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 badges, tabards and sashes Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as ties for trips and 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 changesConsulting 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 policyAvoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailersContinuing 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

Outerwear and School Bags

- Dark coloured (black/navy/grey/green) coat or jacket – this should be weather appropriate. This means:
  - warm and water-resistant with a hood for colder months
  - lightweight and shower-proof for warmer months
- Rucksack / book bag / drawstring bag that can be closed securely and carried by the child. No charms/keyrings. Branded rucksacks and book bags can be purchased from the school office but they **are not** a mandatory requirement of the school uniform policy.

Early Years Uniform (Nursery & Reception Children)

Boys Winter Early Years Uniform	Girls Winter Early Years Uniform
• White polo shirt • Plain navy blue tracksuit (no labels, motifs or branding) • Dark coloured socks • Black / white Velcro trainers • Suitable raincoat • Winter hat, scarf and gloves (children will not be allowed to play in the outside area without a hat in cold weather) • *Optional:* Wellies & waterproof clothing will not be provided by the school so we advise parents to supply this for outside learning	• White polo shirt • Plain navy blue tracksuit (no labels, motifs or branding) • Dark coloured socks • Black / white Velcro trainers • Suitable raincoat • Winter hat, scarf and gloves (children will not be allowed to play in the outside area without a hat in cold weather) • *Optional:* Wellies & waterproof clothing will not be provided by the school so we advise parents to supply this for outside learning

Boys Summer Early Years Uniform	Girls Summer Early Years Uniform
• White polo shirt • Grey shorts • Navy blue sweatshirt • White socks • Black / white Velcro trainers • Lightweight jacket • Sun hat (children will not be allowed to play in the outside area without a hat in hot weather) • Sun cream (minimum SPF 30), clearly labelled with child's name	• Navy blue checked summer dress or • White polo shirt • Navy shorts • Navy blue sweatshirt • White socks • Black / white Velcro trainers • Lightweight jacket • Sun hat (children will not be allowed to play in the outside area without a hat in hot weather) • Sun cream (minimum SPF 30), clearly labelled with child's name

We ask that parents provide a full change of school uniform (including underwear and socks) in a labelled bag for all Nursery and Reception children. This will stay in school to be used if needed.

Years 1 - 6 Uniform

Boys Winter Uniform	Girls Winter Uniform
• White collared shirt (long sleeve) • School tie • Navy V-neck pullover jumper • Grey trousers • Dark coloured socks • Black shoes / black trainers • Suitable raincoat • Winter hat, scarf and gloves (children may not be allowed to play outside without a hat in cold weather)	• White collared shirt (long sleeve) • School tie • Navy V-neck pullover jumper or cardigan • Grey skirt / pinafore / trousers • Navy tights • Black shoes / black trainers • Suitable raincoat • Winter hat, scarf and gloves (children may not be allowed to play outside without a hat in cold weather) • Plain navy hair bands / ties

Boys Summer Uniform	Girls Summer Uniform
• White collared shirt (short sleeve) with school tie Or • White polo top (short sleeve) without school tie • Grey shorts or trousers • Navy V-neck pullover jumper • Dark coloured / white socks • Black shoes / black trainers • Lightweight jacket • Sun hat (children will not be allowed to play outside without a hat in hot weather)	• White collared shirt (short sleeve) with school tie • Grey skirt / trousers / pinafore Or • Navy and white / blue and white checked summer dress • Navy V-neck pullover jumper or cardigan • White socks • Black shoes / black trainers • Lightweight jacket • Navy hair bands / ties • Sun hat (children will not be allowed to play outside without a hat in hot weather)

Boys & Girls PE Kit (all seasons)	Swimming Kit
• White plain T-shirt • Navy shorts • Socks • Trainers / plimsolls to change in to • Dark coloured tracksuit in winter months • All long hair tied back • Earrings removed	**Pupils must adhere to the Tower Hamlets 'Be Well' Leisure Centre swimming attire guidance as follows:** • All girls' costumes MUST be one piece. Two piece costumers are not allowed as the tops • come above the children's heads which is unsafe and does not provide modesty • Costumes must be a tight fit. • Boys must wear swimming trunks and no tops • No jewellery allowed including earrings • All pupils must wear a swimming hat, goggles are optional • Suitable towel for drying • Please ensure all items are labelled with the pupil's name and the school's name

Jewellery (all seasons)	Hair and Personal Appearance
• A wrist watch (analogue or digital) – no 'smart' watches or watches with messaging/internet access (for example, Apple Watches) • One pair of small stud earrings • No hooped/dangling earrings • No necklaces • No bracelets • No rings *Please note that earrings and watches must be removed for PE lessons. The school will not accept responsibility for loss or damage of watches and earrings, all items are worn at your own risk.* *If your child must wear an item of jewellery for religious reasons (for example, a Kara or Kada) please speak to the Head of School.*	• We encourage all pupils to take pride in their appearance and to present themselves in a way that supports a positive learning environment. • Pupils are expected to attend school with a neat and appropriate appearance. • Long hair should be tied back where necessary and kept out of the eyes. • Brightly coloured or dyed hair, extreme hairstyles, shaved patterns, make-up, temporary tattoos, false nails and nail extensions are not permitted. *The school will apply these expectations fairly and reasonably, in accordance with its duties under the Equality Act 2010, and will make appropriate considerations for pupils whose appearance is related to a protected characteristic, religious observance or medical need.*

4.2 Purchasing School Uniform and Accessing Second-Hand Uniform

We are committed to ensuring that our school uniform is affordable and readily available for all families.

The school tie is the only item that must be purchased directly from the school and is available from the school office. All other uniform items can be purchased from a wide range of high-street retailers, including supermarkets and other clothing retailers. Parents and carers are not required to purchase branded uniform items and may choose the most suitable and cost-effective supplier.

Second-Hand Uniform

The school maintains a stock of good-quality second-hand uniform which is available to all families throughout the year. Parents and carers can request second-hand uniform at any time by contacting the school office. Requests will be handled sensitively and discreetly.

To further support families, the school holds second-hand uniform sales at the end of each term and during Parents' Evenings. These events provide opportunities for families to obtain good-quality uniform items at low cost.

Whilst there is no fixed charge for second-hand uniform, families are invited to make a voluntary donation to the school fund of an amount they feel able to afford. No child will be disadvantaged if a donation cannot be made.

Information about the availability of second-hand uniform is communicated regularly to current families and is shared with the parents and carers of new pupils in advance of their child starting school, ensuring that families have sufficient opportunity to obtain uniform before the beginning of the school year.

4.3 Tower Hamlets School Clothing Grant

The Tower Hamlets School Clothing Grant is a school clothing grant helps with the cost of school uniform for children starting reception year or transferring to secondary school.

For 2026, this grant has been extended for children moving into years 3 and 10 from September 2026. Terms and conditions apply.

For more information visit:
https://www.towerhamlets.gov.uk/lgnl/advice_and_benefits/benefits/School-clothing-grants.aspx

Applications must be made directly to Tower Hamlets using the link above.

4.4 Own Clothes Days

From time to time, the school holds non-uniform or "Own Clothes" days. Whilst pupils are not required to wear school uniform on these occasions, we ask parents and carers to ensure that clothing remains appropriate for a primary school environment.

Clothing should be safe, practical, comfortable and suitable for the range of activities that pupils may take part in throughout the school day. We ask that pupils wear clothing that maintains appropriate modesty. For example, crop tops, tops with spaghetti straps, clothing that exposes the midriff, or excessively short garments are not suitable for school.

Footwear should be sensible and safe. High-heeled shoes, footwear with wheels, studded football boots, or any other footwear that could present a safety risk are not permitted.

To promote inclusion and minimise potential disagreements between pupils, football kits and replica sports team shirts should not be worn on Own Clothes Days.

The school reserves the right to ask pupils to modify or remove items of clothing that are considered unsafe, inappropriate, offensive, or unsuitable for the school environment. Where necessary, parents and carers may be contacted to provide alternative clothing.

We appreciate the support of parents and carers in ensuring that Own Clothes Days remain enjoyable, safe and inclusive for all pupils.

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 Miss Laxton, Head of School, 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 Miss Laxton, Head of School 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 Miss Laxton, Head of School.

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. Care of Personal Belongings and Lost Property

We ask all families to help children take responsibility for their uniform and personal belongings while at school. Children are provided with designated areas in which to store their coats and bags and are taught to use these appropriately throughout the school day.

To help us return items promptly, all uniform, coats, bags, lunch boxes, water bottles and other personal belongings must be clearly labelled with the child's name.

The school maintains a lost property box where unidentified items are placed. Parents and carers are welcome to check this regularly if an item goes missing. Please speak to your child's class teacher or the office to arrange access.

Whilst the school takes reasonable steps to support children in looking after their belongings, we cannot guarantee the safety of personal property at all times. Parents are therefore strongly advised not to send children to school with expensive designer, branded or high-value items.

Please note that the school cannot accept responsibility for the loss, theft or damage of any uniform, personal belongings or other items brought onto the school site. The replacement of lost or damaged items remains the responsibility of parents and carers. The school will not replace, re-purchase, or provide any financial compensation for lost, stolen, or damaged items.

7. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Executive Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Standards Committee of the Local Governing Body.

8. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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