

LOUDWATER COMBINED SCHOOL

School Uniform Policy

Introduction

At Loudwater School we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school organised events outside normal school hours.

We ask children to wear their shirts tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take a pride in their personal appearance. Some items of uniform can be bought from our school supplier, whilst others are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is printed overleaf.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that we are pleased to wear a uniform that:

- Promotes a sense of pride in our school
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Identifies pupils with the school
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion
- Prevents pupils from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class
- Is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind
- Is good value for money

Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For many reasons, including safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears or items worn that have a religious significance. Children are required to remove any items during P.E. lessons to prevent them from causing injury.

Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings

Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either blue, white or black to match our uniform. Hair bands should not have large flowers or other decoration attached. Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum.

Footwear

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes without logos as stated in the uniform list. Ankle or other boots should not be worn as they are not part of school uniform. If there are adverse weather conditions boots may be worn to school but changed for school shoes once inside the building.

The Role of Parents

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is visibly labelled on all items. If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a senior member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we

will do all we can to help. We have a stock of good quality second hand uniform and St Peter's Church are often able to help provide items we may not have.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our stock of second-hand uniform to wear for that day if possible. The same system will apply for children who do not have a correct PE kit. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter and how the school can help to ensure correct uniform is worn in future.

If parents would like to purchase items of second-hand uniform they can approach our Family Support Adviser or ask at the school office. Every Tuesday and at relevant school events second hand uniform will be displayed for sale through donations.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the Uniform Policy will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request an exception to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the headteacher and then the Governors.

The Role of Governors

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal Monitoring and Review opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and Review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation regarding school uniform.

School Uniform List

There is a school uniform at Loudwater School that consists of:

Blue sweat-shirts with embroidered school logo*

Plain white polo shirt (embroidered school logo is optional)

Black or dark grey trousers, pinafores or skirts

Plain navy, dark grey or white knee socks (not over the knee) or plain navy or dark grey or white tights

Navy, black or dark grey ankle socks with trousers.

PE Kit (Please note that on the day when the class has PE, children should wear their PE kit to school)

Blue hoodie (embroidered logo and initials are available and are optional)*

PE t-shirt in house colours with embroidered logo (correct colour will be advised when a child joins the school, this will be the same house colour as any siblings currently at the school)*

Black or navy shorts (not cycling shorts or skorts)

Black, navy or dark grey jogging bottoms for outdoor PE in cold weather.
Black Plimsols for KS1 children, white or black sports trainers for KS2 children.

Children from Y2 (summer term only) to Y6 will require swimming attire. These should be a one-piece costume or swimming trunks (not shorts). Children will also be required to wear a swimming hat (these can be borrowed from school) and may wear goggles with parental permission.

If children are using the field for PE during winter months they may be asked to bring an additional pair of trainers for that day. These do not need to be any particular type of sports shoes, the purpose of this is that children have a clean pair of shoes when they return to the school building.

Items marked with a * can be bought from The uniform shop, Different Class in Bourne End.
Other items can be bought from High Street shops and supermarkets.

Please note skirts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows sitting comfortably on the floor. When shorts are worn, they should also be of an appropriate length. Children can become upset because of lost clothing; please help us by naming everything.

If children are attending after school sports clubs they may wear their school PE kit or other appropriate clothing of their choice. If specific kit is required for inter-school competitions this will be provided by the school.

For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings for PE. We strongly recommend that earrings are not worn on PE or swimming days.

We do not specify the type or colour of outdoor coats. However, we request that children bring an appropriately warm or water proof coat to school everyday to allow for changes in the weather during the day.

May 2023