



**EASTGATE ACADEMY**

**UNIFORM POLICY**

Principal L Hothersall	Sign and Date	<i>M d Hothersall</i> 28.9.23
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Next Review Date	
Committee Responsible	Governing Board

Change History

Version	Date	Change Description	Stored
1			
2			
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## Statement of Intent

Eastgate Academy is committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background.

This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart.

Additionally, it is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging to our school. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

## Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006 [\[?\]](#)
- Education Act 2011 [\[?\]](#)
- Human Rights Act 1998 [\[?\]](#)
- Equality Act 2010 [\[?\]](#)
- The General Data Protection Regulation [\[?\]](#)
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy also has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code' [\[?\]](#)
- DfE (2013) 'School Uniform'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy [\[?\]](#)
- Complaints Policy [\[?\]](#)
- Religious Ceremonial Wear

## Key Personnel in Relation to this Policy

Name	Role
	Chair of Governors
Linda Hothersall	Principal
Kerensa Healy	Assistant Principals
Jackie Rutter	
Ben Paull	

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Governing Board is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Principal and school community, establishing a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values. ☒
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against. ☒
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The Principal is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Taking appropriate action when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to establish school identity.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Principal if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Principal has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging.

## **Cost and Availability**

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, Eastgate Academy ensures that the School Uniform Policy does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms. Where changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

The school has a clothing bank where parents can come and select school uniform and other clothes that have been donated by other parents.

## **Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear**

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community.

Eastgate Academy endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible. Governors have adopted a policy for the wearing of Ceremonial Wear. Please make an appointment with the Principal or Assistant Principals to discuss the policy and to make any requests for Ceremonial wear to be worn in school.

Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by case basis by the Principal and Governing Board. This is always conducted in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

## **Equality**

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

## **Complaints and Challenges**

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy. To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

## **Non-Compliance**

On rare occasions, for example, if slogans on clothing are offensive, the Principal and/or Assistant Principals are permitted to ask a pupil to take off the clothing, such as a sweatshirt / jumper. In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.

On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person. If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, for example, Outdoor Learning, parents/carers may be asked to bring the item into school. Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform. However, in accordance with our Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy, these should be recorded using our electronic recording system CPOMS where appropriate.

Sanctions for breaches of this policy are a last resort: the school endeavours to work with families to resolve breaches of this policy in a timely manner.

## **Our Uniform**

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible. The uniform is as follows:

- Blue jumper or blue cardigan (with the school logo)
- White shirt not a polo shirt
- School tie
- Black trousers
- Black skirt (in summer, a blue and white summer dress may be worn)
- Black, sensible shoes or trainers
- Bluebook bag with the school logo, all new pupils receive their first book bag free
- High heels are not permitted: sensible, plain black shoes or trainers must be worn by both boys and girls. Black jeans and leggings are not permitted in day-to-day uniform. All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

## **Our PE Kit**

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for PE.

The PE kit is as follows:

- Plain white polo shirt
- Black zipped hoody or sweatshirt
- Black tracksuit bottoms
- Black shorts (in summer)
- Plain, suitable trainers or black pumps. Plain jogging bottoms, hoodies/sweatshirts are preferred.
- All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

## **Jewellery**

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings (no other piercings are permitted)
- Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, for example, PE lessons / swimming lessons. If children cannot remove their own earrings, then this should be removed at home on the day of PE.

## **School Bag**

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold children's books and reading diaries comfortably without causing any damage.

Large bags / large rucksacks are discouraged for day-to-day lessons due to space in children's lockers. School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted. The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

Additional book bags can also be purchased from our school office at any time.

## **Water Bottle**

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children whenever necessary during the day. Water bottles must be labelled with the pupil's name.

## **Hair Styles**

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. The Principal will take each individual pupil's scenario into consideration.

Long hair on both girls and boys should be tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

## **Make-Up and False nails**

Make-up and false nails are not allowed in school.

## **Adverse Weather**

### **Hot Weather**

Everyone working at/attending the school during hot weather conditions is required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible.

This includes wearing:

- Loose fitting tops with collars or covered necklines
- Tops that cover the shoulder area
- Black shorts or pale blue and white summer dresses of an appropriate length
- Sun-safe hats
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Sunscreen (children must be able to apply this themselves and it must be labelled and handed to the child's class teacher)

During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are not required to wear their jumpers/cardigans during heatwaves.

If outside during break and lunch times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing/sunscreen are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

### **Cold Weather**

During cold weather, pupils are required to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside. Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted. Where possible, pupils not wearing warm clothing are provided with spare clothing if going outside during break and lunch times.

### **Equality**

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

### **Labelling**

School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated spaces for children to keep belongings in and checking of labels.

However, all pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name. Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher.

Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

Appendix 1 –

Quick Reference Guide to School Uniform. The images below are intended as a guide. Children’s sweatshirts/cardigans with our school logo on.

We also accept black trousers/skirts/shorts. For more information, please read our School Uniform Policy in full.

Winter	Summer	PE
		
		
		



