



Farnborough Road Infant School

Uniform Policy

“Learning, Caring and Achieving Together”

Introduction

It is our school policy that all children, with the exception of children in our 2-year-old Caterpillar Nursery, wear school uniform when attending school and, where appropriate, when participating in school-organised activities. A clear list of required and optional items is set out in this policy and published on the school website.

This policy has been reviewed in light of the Department for Education's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms and its updated guidance on developing school uniform policy, both updated on 6 July 2026. From 1 September 2026, primary schools must not require more than three compulsory branded items of school uniform and PE kit. At Farnborough Road Infant School no branded uniform or PE item is compulsory: parents may choose items displaying the FRIS logo, but equivalent plain, generic items in the specified school colours are equally acceptable.

We believe school uniform makes a positive contribution to our school ethos by promoting belonging, identity and pride. At the same time, uniform must be practical, inclusive and affordable. The cost of uniform should never be a barrier to a child applying to, attending or participating fully in school.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform aims to:

- promote a sense of pride, identity, community and belonging;
- provide practical, comfortable and safe clothing suitable for young children and their learning;
- support equality and inclusion and avoid unnecessary social pressure around clothing;
- ensure that requirements are affordable and offer good value for money;
- keep branded items to a minimum and allow generic alternatives;
- support children's independence, particularly in the Early Years; and
- ensure that uniform expectations are applied fairly, sensitively and consistently.

Affordability and branded items

FRIS gives high priority to affordability and value for money. No branded item of school uniform or PE kit is compulsory. Logoed sweatshirts, cardigans, book bags, PE bags and other FRIS-branded items may be purchased if parents wish, but plain alternatives meeting the colour and practical requirements of this policy are acceptable.

Parents may purchase generic uniform from any retailer. The school will keep its uniform requirements and supply arrangements under review, considering the cost, quality, durability and sustainability of items. We will consult parents and, in an age-appropriate way, pupils when significant changes to the uniform policy are proposed.

Second-hand and pre-loved uniform

FRIS is committed to making pre-loved uniform freely and discreetly accessible to families. Pre-loved uniform is available through the First Steps Family Wellbeing Centre throughout the school year. We also support the local Uniform Hub through Compassion Acts by collecting donated uniform and signposting families to this service. The PTFA may also make pre-loved uniform available at school events.

Information about obtaining second-hand uniform is published on the school website and shared with current and prospective parents. Families who need support with uniform are encouraged to contact the Headteacher or Family Wellbeing Centre.

Uniform and attendance

A difficulty obtaining the correct uniform, PE kit or clean clothing will never in itself be a barrier to a child attending school. Where a family is experiencing difficulty, FRIS will work sensitively with parents/carers to provide support, access to pre-loved uniform and, where appropriate, temporary flexibility in uniform expectations. The school will also respond to any bullying or discrimination linked to a child's uniform, clothing or appearance.

Equality, inclusion and reasonable adjustments

The Governing Body and school have due regard to the Equality Act 2010, human rights, safeguarding duties and pupil wellbeing when developing and implementing this policy. Requests for adaptations connected with religion or belief, disability, SEND, medical needs, race, culture or another protected characteristic will be considered sensitively and individually. Reasonable adjustments will be made where required.

Uniform expectations will not be applied in a way that directly or indirectly discriminates against pupils. Where a child has sensory, physical, medical or developmental needs that affect their ability to wear particular items, the school will work with parents/carers to agree an appropriate alternative.

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, children should not normally wear jewellery in school. Exceptions include plain stud earrings in pierced ears, items worn for religious or cultural reasons, and medical identification jewellery. Watches may be worn at parents' risk.

Jewellery must be managed safely during PE and physical activity. Parents should ensure that children can remove earrings where required. Where an item cannot be removed for religious, cultural, medical or other significant reasons, the school will consider an appropriate risk assessment and reasonable adjustment rather than applying a blanket response.

Hairstyles and hair accessories

Hair should be safe and practical for school activities. Long hair should be tied back where necessary for safety, particularly during PE, physical activity and practical learning. Hair accessories should be simple and suitable for school; maroon, gold, grey or black are encouraged.

FRIS does not discriminate against hair texture or hairstyles associated with race, ethnicity, religion, culture or other protected characteristics. Any restriction on hairstyle or accessories will be based on a clear and proportionate reason such as health, safety, safeguarding or the practical requirements of learning, rather than on a particular cultural or aesthetic style.

Footwear

Black school shoes should be worn throughout the year. Shoes should be sensible, secure and suitable for active young children. Simple fastenings such as Velcro are encouraged for younger pupils; laced shoes should only be worn where children can manage their own laces independently. Heels should be low, with a maximum height of approximately 2cm. Trainers, boots and open-toe sandals are not part of the normal school uniform.

Where footwear needs to be adapted for medical, disability, SEND or other significant reasons, parents/carers should speak to the school so that an appropriate adjustment can be agreed.

Required uniform for Farnborough Road Infant School

Our school uniform colours are maroon, gold and grey. Caterpillars, Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 pupils may wear:

- gold polo shirt;
- maroon cardigan or sweatshirt - with or without the FRIS logo;
- straight-legged grey school trousers or grey school shorts;
- grey skirt or grey pinafore;
- for our Caterpillar and Nursery children, grey jogging bottoms may be worn to support independent self-care;
- grey socks or tights, with white socks also permitted with the optional summer dress; and
- black school shoes.

All of the above items may be generic and purchased from a retailer of the parent's choice.

Optional summer uniform

During warmer weather, children may choose to wear a red/pink and white checked or striped summer school dress. This is optional and does not need to be branded. The school may temporarily relax uniform requirements during periods of extreme or adverse weather where this supports children's health, safety and comfort.

P.E. kit - Reception, Year 1 and Year 2

For PE, pupils should have practical and comfortable clothing suitable for physical activity:

- plain white T-shirt;
- plain black shorts; and

- black PE pumps where required for the activity.

No branded PE item is compulsory. A FRIS PE bag may be purchased from the school shop, but any suitable drawstring bag may be used. Where a child requires an adapted PE kit for SEND, disability, medical, religious or cultural reasons, the school will agree an appropriate alternative.

Book bags and water bottles

FRIS-branded book bags are optional. Families may choose another suitable bag for carrying books and school materials. Children should have access to water during the school day. The school provides children with a school water bottle at the start of the school year. Replacement FRIS bottles may be purchased, but families should speak to school if support is needed. Any alternative bottle brought to school should be practical, clearly named and suitable for use by a young child.

Lunch boxes

Caterpillar and Nursery children who stay for lunch require a clearly labelled lunch box for their packed lunch. Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 may have a school meal or bring a packed lunch. Lunch boxes do not need to be school-branded.

The role of parents and carers

We ask parents and carers to support the school's uniform expectations and to label children's clothing clearly. We recognise that children grow quickly and that family circumstances differ. Parents should contact the school if they need help obtaining uniform, require a temporary adjustment or wish to request an adaptation for their child.

Concerns or requests relating to this policy should initially be discussed with the Headteacher. The school will consider individual circumstances fairly and sensitively.

Pupil non-compliance

Uniform concerns will be addressed sensitively and proportionately, taking account of the child's age, circumstances, equality considerations and any SEND, disability, medical, religious or cultural needs. Staff will seek to understand the reason for non-compliance and work with parents/carers to resolve difficulties. A pupil will not be prevented from attending school solely because a family is experiencing difficulty obtaining the correct uniform.

The role of governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing this policy and is responsible for ensuring that it is lawful, fair, inclusive and affordable. Governors will have regard to statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms and will ensure that the school complies with the legal limit on compulsory branded items.

Governors will keep the policy under review, consider representations from parents, monitor affordability and accessibility, and ensure that the policy continues to reflect equality legislation, safeguarding duties and the needs of the FRIS community.

Monitoring and review

The school will review this policy at appropriate intervals and whenever national guidance or legislation changes. In doing so, FRIS will consider feedback from parents and pupils, affordability, access to second-hand uniform, equality and inclusion, attendance and whether the requirements remain practical and proportionate.

This policy should be read alongside the school's Relationships and Behaviour Policy, Public Sector Equality Statement, SEND Policy, Attendance Policy and relevant safeguarding policies.

Policy information

Updated: September 2026

Approved by Governing Body: _____

Review date: September 2027

Signed: _____ Headteacher

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors