

Uniform policy

The Blake School is a flourishing community of unique individuals, the wearing of a school uniform is an external expression of the single community to which all belong equally. As part of belonging to The Blake School community, children are expected to wear their uniform and take pride in their personal appearance. Children attending The Blake School should be considered smart, well presented, and therefore ready for learning.

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or events during the school day and when requested for participation in school-organised events outside of normal school hours where uniform indicates that children are representatives of the school.

At The Blake School we believe that uniform –

- Reflects that all children are equal members of the school community
- Promotes a sense of pride in our school
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion
- Prevents children wearing clothes that may distract others
- Is practical, smart, and designed to be suitable for a day of learning in school
- Is considered good value for money

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. Any request to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform on religious grounds, will be considered sympathetically and reasonable adjustments that are in keeping with the uniform will be considered. If any parent would like to request an exception to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the headteacher.

A complete list of school uniform, including for PE, is attached as an appendix to this policy. New items of branded uniform must be bought from our supplier, items of second-hand uniform can sometimes be obtained from the school office or via 'The Friends' events. To ensure that school uniform remains affordable and therefore that no-one is disadvantaged, all other items of uniform can be purchased from high street stores.

Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For many reasons, primarily the children's safety, we do not allow them to wear jewellery, other than studs in pierced ears and a watch but not a smart watch.

Children are required to remove watches and studs, or in the case of studs that cannot be removed to tape them over, 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 red, grey or white to match our uniform; they 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, children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair.

Footwear

All children are required to wear plain black shoes without logos. In the winter, ankle boots may be worn, these should also be plain black and without a platform sole or a high heel.

For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear shoes with open toes, platform soles or high heels.

The role of parents

We ask that parents ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, which is clean, and in good repair.

Children can become upset as a result of lost or missing uniform; parents are therefore asked to ensure that all items of uniform are clearly named. Items of uniform that are not named and remain unclaimed will be used to provide second hand uniform to others.

If any parents are unable to provide their child with the correct uniform, they are asked to speak in confidence with the office staff.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing, or who do not have the appropriate PE kit, will be loaned second-hand clothing to wear. Parents will be made aware of the concern and to discuss what support can be put in place moving forwards.

Monitoring and Review

The governing body will monitor and review the school uniform policy to ensure that it remains –

- Appropriate for learning in school
- Practical and hard-wearing
- Good value for money