

Hartford Infant and Preschool



School Uniform Policy March 2022

Lead person: Mrs Rae Lee
Adopted by Governors: Spring 2022
Date of revision: Every 3 years

Introduction

Our uniform policy reflects our values and reinforces our school's culture of high expectations and academic achievement. We encourage all children to dress according to the uniform policy. Our school uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school community and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security.

When queries arise with an individual pupil's uniform, the school will in the first instance attempt to start a conversation with the family of that pupil in an attempt to understand the situation.

Rationale

Smartness and high standards of appearance are always expected. We have a required school uniform for several reasons:

- uniforms unite the school - children make a commitment that when they put on their Hartford Infant School or Pre School uniform, they will abide by the rules of the community;
- uniforms reduce distractions - when children can wear their own clothing, there can be the potential to talk about fashions and styles rather than learning;
- uniforms make us all equal - whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the children come to school looking the same way;
- uniforms look professional - children look neat and ready to learn.

We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

Non-compliance with the Uniform Policy

We will follow a routine when children are not adhering to the school uniform policy:

- the parent will be discretely asked why this is the case;
- parents and carers of children that do not wear their uniform correctly will be asked to bring a uniform; [if this is not possible that day, then the expectation is that the pupil will be properly dressed on the next school day].

There may be good reasons why a child is not wearing school uniform. In this case, parents and carers should share the reasons with the Headteacher either in person or by letter. The school will always be considerate and discrete in trying to establish why a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform. Children will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. In line with our culture of honest conversation with parents and carers, we encourage discussion with the school at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties.

There will be occasions when the school decides that school uniform is not appropriate e.g. when taking part in a physical activity day such as Forest School or wearing different clothes as a part of a fund raising event. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of the revised dress code on these days.

1. Racial Equality & Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the uniform respects other policies such as Equality, Race relations, sex discrimination and allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals. Hartford Infant and Preschool is committed to creating a positive climate that will

enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

2. The following are acceptable items of school uniform for girls and boys:

- White or blue shirt, polo neck shirt or blouse
- Dark blue jumper, cardigan or fleece [available from all supermarkets or a with school log available from the school]
-]Black or grey trousers [not jeans]
- Black or grey shorts
- Black or grey skirt
- Blue check gingham dress
- Black, grey or white tights
- Black, grey or white socks
- Smart black shoes – see later section for further detail about footwear

PE Kit

Indoor

- White T-shirt (plain, no logo)
- Black shorts (plain, no logo)
- Black, white or grey socks
- Black or white trainers (plain colours only)

Outdoor (in addition to the Indoor kit)

- Black or dark blue tracksuit trousers
- Plain, dark, single coloured sweatshirt (black, navy, grey).

Please note, hoodies are not acceptable for school uniform or PE uniform.

3. Availability

All the items above are readily available from the high street – if parents and carers find any item difficult to obtain, please contact the school office. Our uniform has been kept simple to avoid unnecessary expense. The school uniform jumper, fleece and cardigan are available from the school office with the Hartford School logo embroidered onto them.

4. Outdoor clothing

Children should bring a coat to school each day, although this may not be necessary during hotter weather. Smart, showerproof, jacket-style coats are acceptable.

5. Bags and belongings

A bookbag is recommended for carrying books, homework, letters and other materials to and from school. Rucksacks and bags are also acceptable, providing they can be hung on a school peg.

6. Footwear

Children must wear closed-toed, hard-soled, **all black** plain shoes with a flat sole. Footwear with flashing lights is not appropriate for school. Children may wear **all black** closed-toed sandals as part of the uniform during warmer weather. Open-toed sandals should not be worn, even in the warmer weather.

7. Examples of acceptable and not acceptable footwear

Acceptable	Not acceptable
 	 
 	 
 	 
 	 

8. Hats, Headscarves or Headwear

Children are not allowed to wear hats, headscarves, or any other head covering inside the school building unless it is due to medical, religious or cultural reasons. Any head covering for religious or cultural values or hair accessories that are worn such as slides, ribbons, bobbles etc. should be simple and in school uniform colours (dark blue, grey or white).

9. Hairstyles

Children' hair should be neatly groomed and smart. Where possible, long hair should be tied back neatly in school uniform colours (dark blue, grey or white). This is not only for reasons of smartness, appearance and health and safety: children' faces should not be obscured as the teacher may not be able to judge their engagement with learning and to secure their participation in discussions and practical activities. Children may not wear designs or words cut into their hair or permanent or temporarily coloured hair.

10. Fingernail Polish or Make-Up

Children are not allowed to wear fingernail polish or false nails. Make-up is not allowed.

11. Jewellery/Accessories

Children may not wear any jewellery except for one watch only (no sound effects or games). Children can wear one pair of stud earrings, and they must be worn in the lower ear lobe. All studs must be removed for PE and not taped over. *Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.*

12. Body Piercing and Tattoos

Body piercing is not allowed, except for single, standard ear piercing. No other forms of body piercing will be allowed for any pupil. Children are not allowed to have tattoos of any kind on their body. If there is a religious or cultural reason for parents feeling a non-permanent tattoo is appropriate, they should in the first instance contact the school.

13. Naming Clothing and Property

VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of children' property and valuables.

14. Lost Property

All mislaid items are placed in the lost property cupboard. Please ask the school office if you wish to look through this cupboard. We endeavour to return all named property. All unclaimed lost property is disposed of at the end of term.

15. Second-hand Uniform

Any unwanted items of uniform may be given to the school office. We will be establishing a second hand uniform sale.