

SOUTH HAMS FEDERATION

School Uniform Policy

Approved: 31.1.22

Review: January 2023

1. Introduction

At The South Hams Federation it is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a list of the items suggested for school uniform on our schools website.

The DfE (Department for Education) 'strongly encourages schools to have a uniform' as they believe 'it can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and set an appropriate tone.'

2. Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- builds a sense of identity;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- supports positive behaviour;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

3. Items of uniform

- Uniforms for the schools within the South Hams Federation are shared with parents/carers when children join one of the schools and is available on the individual school websites.

4. Jewellery

- In accordance with the Local Authority requirements on health and safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.
- The exceptions to this rule are small, simple studs in pierced ears, small objects of religious significance or wristwatches. "Smart" watches are strictly prohibited.
- On days when children have Physical Education lessons and/or sporting activities, they should not wear jewellery to school. If children do attend school with jewellery, they will be asked to remove objects before Physical Education lessons or any other lessons where the wearing of such items constitutes a potential safety risk. Teachers and other members of staff do not take responsibility for the safe keeping of jewellery which has been removed.

5. Extreme haircuts / Make-up

- The school does not permit children to have haircuts / hair colourings that could serve as a distraction to other children.
- Mid to long length hair should be tied back at all times. Hair accessories should be minimal and in keeping with the school colours of navy and grey.
- The wearing of make-up, including nail varnish, is not permitted. Likewise, the wearing of temporary tattoos is not acceptable.

6. The Role of Parents

- We ask all parents who send their children to a South Hams Federation school to support the 'School Uniform Policy'. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and to support the policies of the school. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform / colours and that it is clean and in good condition.

7. Pupil non-compliance

- It is our aim to work with families to overcome difficulties with non-compliance of this policy. At all times, we are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances. In this instance, parents should at first make representations to the Executive Headteacher.
- If a pupil is not wearing an item of uniform as identified in this policy, the class teacher/ Head of School will discuss the issue with the parent/carer.

8. The Role of the Governing Body

- The Governing body supports the Executive Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy and liaises with the Executive Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.
- It is the Governing body's responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities and that the school uniform policy is consistent with the school's policy on equal opportunities.
- Governing body members ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

9. Monitoring and review

- This policy will be reviewed by the Governing body annually.