Policy: School Uniform

A uniform develops a sense of belonging, prevents competition and saves money.
It supports us in maintaining our high standards of behaviour.
Contact us if you need help with the cost or if you've questions, comments or concerns.

SCHOLES
Scholes (Elmet) Primary School

Uniform

item	description	additional notes
top	navy sweatshirt, cardigan or jumper *(each year, Year 6 choose a different colour)*	- tops with logo are available (not essential)
shirt	white short sleeved polo shirt or white shirt	- polo-shirts with logos are available (not essential)
trousers / skirt / dress	grey/black trousers/shorts; or grey/black knee-length skirt or pinafore dress; or blue and white checked/striped dress	- no black jeans - Early Years: grey/black trousers that are easy to pull up and down (eg joggers) are acceptable
socks / tights	plain white/grey/navy/black socks; or plain white/grey/navy/black tights	- should be a plain, block colour
footwear	plain, flat black/white/grey footwear (trainers are ideal for active playtimes)	- choose shoes that are safe to run around for healthy, active playtimes (eg avoid Crocs)

PE kit, which should be worn on PE days **For more detail, check out the guide to PE kit – next page.**

item	description	additional notes
t-shirt	**indoor**: plain white t-shirt (long or short sleeved) **outdoor**: as above, plus the school uniform top	- for an extra layer, wear school top/fleece - this can be a t-shirt or polo-shirt (shirts with logos are available, but not essential) - avoid short tops (eg crop tops)
shorts	plain grey/black/navy shorts or PE skirt	- avoid very short shorts
tracksuit bottoms	plain grey/black/navy tracksuit bottoms/leggings	- ideal for outdoor use
footwear	**indoor**: plain pumps/trainers **outdoor**: plain trainers	- trainers can be those worn to school - avoid bright colours

Additional notes

Pupils should dress appropriately and respectfully for school. **Items should reflect the principles and guidelines set out here, including those for non-uniform days eg age-appropriate branding for items.**
All clothing should be clearly labelled.
Avoid expensive items. **We don't accept responsibility for any loss or damage to an individual's property.**

Bags: Please restrict bags to small backpacks/shoulder bags and avoid expensive accessories. Items such as book bags with the school logo are available from our uniform supplier.

Skin: No make-up, including nail varnish, no temporary/real tattoos, no pimple patches

Hair: Long hair should be tied back (this is so that it does not distract from learning and for hygiene reasons). Hairstyles should not be attention-seeking eg extreme styles such as mohicans or dyed hair are neither appropriate or acceptable for children of primary school age. This includes eyebrows.
Hair accessories (eg bands, bows) should be minimal: as small as possible and not too bright.

Jewellery: Only discreet (ie small, not brightly coloured) stud earrings and items that are absolutely required by a religion are allowed. Earrings can cause serious injury: advisors recommend no earrings are worn for PE. We will ask your child to remove earrings before the lesson and put them back in after the lesson. This will be carried out by your child. If they're unable to remove or put their earrings back in by themselves, they must not wear them on the day they have PE. Please consider the risk of injury during other active times such as an after-school club or class trip.

Non-uniform days: Pupils should dress appropriately and respectfully, even on non-uniform days. Clothes are inappropriate if they, for example, glorify violence, feature bad language, are very short (eg crop tops), or relate to age-inappropriate topics. When consulted (18.03.21), junior leaders described this as 'setting-appropriate' clothing and clothing that is 'well-judged'. Make-up (other than face paints as part of a specific costume) is not allowed. Flip-flops or high-heeled shoes are not allowed, even on non-uniform days, because they're dangerous when running.

Religious requirements and race equality: Only items that are absolutely required by a religion are allowed. For example, Sikhs are traditionally required to wear a bangle and, for boys, to cover their hair, which is left uncut, secured in a top-knot or turban.

Supplier: School uniform can be purchased from various suppliers – ask at the school office if you're unsure.

Toys: Only with prior agreement to support pupils with social, emotional and SEND issues.

Watches and electronic items: A watch or step counter is allowed. Devices that connect to the internet (eg a smart watch) or that can record (eg taking photos) are not allowed for safeguarding reasons; these should be left at home, but can be handed in at the start of the day. Refer to our Positive Relationships Policy for other items not allowed.

Water bottles: Avoid glass. These should be labelled and regularly cleaned.

PE kit – a quick guide

✓ plain white

✓ white polo

✓ school logo

× no stripes

× no bands

× no lettering or brands

✓ plain grey/black/navy

✓ plain grey/black/navy

✓ plain grey/black/navy

✓ school top

× no brand logos

× no hoods

✓ non-branded or…

✓ subtle logos

× no bright colours

SPHERE FEDERATION

Scholes (Elmet) Primary
St James' CE Primary
Moortown Primary

Policy: Uniform

Date: reviewed regularly; see date in document label for most recent update

1. Principles

The Department for Education 19.11.21 sets out important benefits of school uniform:

> We strongly encourage schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:
> - promoting the ethos of a school
> - providing a sense of belonging and identity
> - setting an appropriate tone for education
>
> By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes.

Sphere Federation schools aim to ensure:

- the cost of school uniform is affordable
- our suppliers give high priority to cost and value for money (including the quality and durability of garments)

Our pupils are clear about the benefits of school uniform. Junior Leadership Teams (JLTs) have been consulted:

- *'It saves time because we don't have to choose new clothes every day'; 'It prevents peer pressure to look cool.'* (JLT, Moortown Primary, 25.05.22)
- *'It shows which school we go to – it's a sense of community; 'When we go on school trips it helps the teachers identify use among other people.'* (JLT, Scholes (Elmet) Primary, 07.06.22)

2. Key points

The following are **key points for parents / carers** to be aware of / act on:

- wearing a school uniform brings with it many benefits (see above)
- everyone following the policy brings a sense of fairness: *'I think [school uniform's] really important because when you go to school everyone is wearing the same.'* (JLT, St James' CE Primary, 23.05.22)
- branded items are available (including for PE), but optional
- school uniform details are set out on the following page
- parents / carers are able to purchase generic items of uniform from a range of retailers giving them choice and value for money
- for branded items as well as non-branded items, at least three suppliers are listed on each Sphere Federation school website (with different price ranges enabling choice with regards value for money and personal preferences)
- second hand items can benefit all parents and, by extending the life of items, are more sustainable; items may be available in school (lost property that has not been claimed) or at Leeds School Uniform Exchange
- Sphere Federation supports ethically sourced school uniforms; further information regarding ethics and sustainability can be found either on our suppliers' websites or by contacting them directly

The following are **key points for Sphere Federation schools**:

- we avoid single supplier contracts
- we ensure second-hand uniforms are available for parents/carers
- we periodically engage with parents and pupils, including when this policy is reviewed (parent/carer annual survey, 2022; Junior Leadership Team meetings, summer 2022
- we think about the total cost of school uniform, including PE kit and not just everyday classroom wear, and avoiding the requirement for unnecessary additional items for extra-curricular activities
- we consider how the cost of uniform might affect each group represented at the school, including children who belong to groups with a particular protected characteristic
- in order to ensure compliance with our policy, we're happy to meet with parents / carers to explore reasons why and seek a solution
- periodically, and when prompted by parent / carer feedback, we review our suppliers, and always provide at least three options for uniform
- we typically have spare, clean items of uniform, including PE kit, for children to change into if they're not wearing the items set out in this policy