



BIRCHINGTON CE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

‘Learning and Growing; Safe in God’s Love

Introduction

At Birchington CE Primary we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. Due to our Christian Vision, we want everyone to feel included and valued as part of our Birchington family and our uniform is a recognition of everyone being a part of this.

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in certain school-organised events both in and outside normal school hours. We encourage children to take a pride in their personal appearance and be proud to wear it.

Main items of uniform can be bought from: -

The Schoolwear Centre Ltd
56 Addington Street
Margate
Kent
CT9 1QS
01843 293555

Email: sales@schoolshop.uk.net

Other items, such as trousers, skirts etc. are also easily available at competitive prices at local shops and supermarkets. Free, quality second-hand uniform can also be obtained from our school via Sarah Cooper or Ellie Chapman, our Pastoral Managers & FLO. They can be contacted via the school office.

A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education can be found on our school website, www.birchington-primary.com.

Aims

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that we are proud to wear a uniform that:

- Promotes a sense of community and belonging in our school
- Identifies pupils from our school on visits and trips
- Supports school inclusion
- Is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind
- Is considered to be good value for money

Jewellery, Hair/Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For a number of reasons, including safety, we ask that our pupils do not wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears. Children are required to remove any items during P.E. lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note: Staff are not permitted to remove earrings.

LEARNING AND GROWING; SAFE IN GOD’S LOVE

For health and safety reasons we ask that long hair is tied back. Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either burgundy, gold/yellow or a plain colour. Hair bands should not have large flowers or other decorations attached.

Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school.

Footwear

For health and safety reasons we ask that pupil do not wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes. If boots are worn, these should also be plain black. If boots are large and prevent children from sitting comfortably on the floor, they may be asked to change into their PE shoes whilst inside the school building. In the Early Years, it is also important for children to have a named pair of wellies to wear outside.

If parent/carers need support in purchasing shoes, please see our Pastoral Manager & FLO who will be happy to assist you with this.

The Role of Parents and Carers

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents and carers is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is visibly labelled on all items. If a parent/carer has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a Senior Leader or Ellie Chapman or Sarah Cooper to discuss any issues. Please be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our lost property to wear for that day if possible. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit. Parents and carers will be contacted to discuss the matter if this continues.

Welcoming Everyone

Our school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are reasons, for example on religious, cultural, disability or health grounds, why parents or carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from our normal school uniform, we will consider such requests sympathetically.

The DFE expectation is, "Where our school has good reason for restricting an individual's freedoms, for example, the promotion of cohesion and good order in the school, or genuine health and safety or security considerations, the restriction of an individual's rights to manifest their religion or belief may be justified.

Schools should be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and act reasonably in accommodating these needs, without compromising important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. It should be possible for most religious requirements to be met within a school uniform policy and a Governing Board should act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating these."

If any parent/carers would like to request an exception to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the Headteacher who will be happy to talk your request through with you.

The Role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents and carers regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all expectations regarding equality monitoring. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe, practical and affordable.

Monitoring and Review

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- ensuring uniform expectations are clear for parents and carers
- ensuring, through publicising this and other policies, that the expectation is all school policies are adhered to when they choose our school for their child
- considering, if required to by the Headteacher, any requests from parents/carers for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform

School Uniform List

There is a school uniform at Birchington CE Primary that consists of:

- Maroon v-necked jumpers and cardigans with embroidered school logo*
- Maroon fleece with embroidered school logo*
- Gold polo t-shirt
- Grey trousers, shorts, skirts, skorts and pinafores
- Summer dresses (burgundy or yellow check)*
- Book bag with embroidered school logo*

Optional Extra Items

- Maroon fleece with embroidered badge*
- Maroon hooded sweatshirt with embroidered badge*
- Back pack with embroidered badge*
- Maroon coat with embroidered badge*
- Birchington cap and safari cap
- Birchington school scarf

Items marked with a * be purchased from the [Schoolwear Centre](#) in Margate. Other items, including the summer dresses can be bought from high street shops and supermarkets.

Please note skirts/skorts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows sitting comfortably on the floor. When skirts/skorts/shorts are worn, they should also be of an appropriate length which ensures the dignity of the child.

P.E. Kit

For health and hygiene reasons, children need a change of clothes and footwear for P.E. and a draw-string bag in which to keep the kit at school. P.E. kit and P.E. bags may be purchased from the Schoolwear Centre in Margate or from a shop/supermarket. All school uniform and P.E. kit MUST be named. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing; please help us by naming everything.

P.E. Uniform is:

- Black shorts or black cycling shorts
- P.E. t-shirt in your child's house colour (this is confirmed before your child starts school)
- A pair of trainers (for outdoor sports) and black plimsolls (for indoor sports) – velcro fastenings are essential for younger children for indoor P.E.
- Black/dark jogging bottoms/tracksuit for outdoor lessons in cold weather

**Reviewed by Headteacher & Governors November 2024
To be reviewed November 2026**