

School Uniform Policy

The Federation of Emscote Infant School and All Saints' C of E Junior School

Working Together, Valuing Everyone, Learning for Life

Policy owner	Executive Headteacher
Approval	Federation Governing Body
Approval date	September 2026
Review date	September 2029
Applies to	Emscote Infant School and All Saints' C of E Junior School

1 Purpose and principles

This policy explains the uniform expected at both schools in the Federation. Our uniform helps children feel that they belong, supports a shared identity and sets an appropriate tone for learning. It must also be practical, inclusive and affordable so that no child is prevented from attending school or taking part fully because of the cost of clothing or PE kit.

The Governing Body has had regard to the Department for Education's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms and its guidance on developing school uniform policy. The Federation will:

- keep compulsory branded items to the minimum and within the legal limit of three items or fewer from 1 September 2026;
- allow generic items to be bought from supermarkets, high-street shops, online retailers or second-hand sources;
- give high priority to cost, quality, durability, sustainability and value for money;
- make second-hand uniform accessible to current and prospective families;
- apply the policy fairly, sensitively and consistently, with reasonable adjustments and individual flexibility where needed; and
- ensure that uniform cost is never a barrier to attendance, inclusion or participation.

2 Legal and guidance framework

This policy has been prepared with regard to:

- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021;
- Education Act 1996, including the limit on compulsory branded uniform and PE items from 1 September 2026;
- Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026;
- Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998;
- Department for Education statutory guidance Cost of school uniforms, updated 6 July 2026; and
- Department for Education guidance Developing school uniform policy, updated 6 July 2026.

3 Responsibilities

The Governing Body

The Governing Body determines the uniform, ensures that this policy meets legal duties, considers affordability and equality, oversees supply arrangements and reviews the policy at appropriate intervals.

The Executive Headteacher and Heads of School

School leaders publish and implement the policy, ensure expectations are clear, consider individual requests and make sure any response to non-compliance is fair, proportionate and does not disadvantage a child because of financial hardship or a protected characteristic.

Parents and carers

Parents and carers are asked to support the policy, ensure that items are suitable for school and clearly named, and contact the school office promptly if cost, disability, sensory needs, religion, culture, medical needs or another circumstance makes any requirement difficult.

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the agreed uniform, take reasonable care of their clothing and PE kit, and speak to a trusted adult if they need help.

4 Compulsory branded items

Each school requires only one compulsory branded item: a burgundy or maroon school sweatshirt or cardigan bearing the relevant school logo. Families may buy more than one if they wish, but only one type of branded garment is required. Branded book bags, coats and other accessories may be offered, but they are optional and a suitable generic alternative is always acceptable. PE kit is unbranded.

5 Emscote Infant School uniform

Children may choose from the items below. Choices are not restricted by sex or gender. Except for the school sweatshirt or cardigan, all items may be purchased from any retailer and do not need a logo.

Item	Requirement
Top	Light blue or white polo shirt.
Bottom	Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress.
Required branded item	Burgundy school sweatshirt or cardigan with the Emscote logo.
Socks and tights	Grey, black or white socks, or grey or black tights.
Shoes	Plain, sensible black shoes. Trainers and open-toed sandals are not suitable for everyday wear.
Outdoor clothing	A suitable weatherproof coat. A dark coat is encouraged but visibility and safety when walking or cycling take priority. A school-logo coat is optional.
Summer option	Blue-and-white checked dress, or grey shorts, normally from after the Easter holiday until October half-term.
Bag	A practical book bag or small school bag. A maroon logo book bag is optional; an unbranded alternative is acceptable.
Hair accessories	Simple, practical accessories are encouraged. Burgundy is preferred, but no specialist or branded item is required.

Emscote PE kit

Item	Requirement
Top	Plain white T-shirt.
Bottom	Plain blue or black shorts.
Cool weather	Plain blue or black jogging bottoms or opaque leggings.
Footwear	Trainers suitable for physical activity.
Warm layer	The normal school sweatshirt or cardigan may be worn; no additional branded PE garment is required.

6 All Saints' CE Junior School uniform

Children may choose from the items below. Choices are not restricted by sex or gender. Except for the school sweatshirt or cardigan, all items may be purchased from any retailer and do not need a logo.

Item	Requirement
Top	White polo shirt or school shirt.
Bottom	Traditionally cut grey trousers or shorts, or a grey skirt of a practical and appropriate length.
Required branded item	Maroon school sweatshirt or cardigan with the All Saints' logo.
Socks and tights	Grey socks or grey tights. White socks may be worn with a summer dress.
Shoes	Sensible plain black shoes, with heels no higher than 3 cm. Plain black sandals may be worn in warm weather if safe and secure.
Outdoor clothing	A warm, weatherproof coat. Visibility and safety when walking or cycling take priority.
Summer option	Pink, maroon or dark-red checked summer dress with white socks, or grey trousers or shorts.
Bag	A practical school bag or book bag. Any branded version is optional and an unbranded alternative is acceptable.

All Saints' PE kit

Item	Requirement
Clothing	Plain white T-shirt with plain navy or black shorts. Plain navy or black tracksuit bottoms or opaque leggings may be worn for outdoor PE in cooler weather.
Outdoor footwear	Trainers suitable for physical activity.
Indoor PE and dance	Plimsolls or bare feet, as directed by staff for the activity and safety of pupils.
Additional kit	No additional branded kit is required for lessons, clubs or school competitions. Where a specialist team kit is needed, the school will loan it without charge and allow a suitable alternative where required.

7 Appearance, jewellery and safety

Clothing, footwear and accessories must be safe, practical and suitable for an active school day. The following expectations apply:

- Hair may be worn in styles that reflect a pupil's identity, race, culture, religion or family tradition. Longer hair should be secured when needed for PE, practical lessons, food preparation or other safety reasons.
- Jewellery should be kept to a minimum. Small stud earrings and a watch may be worn. Items must be removed or made safe for PE in line with staff instructions and the activity risk assessment.
- Religious or cultural clothing and head coverings are welcomed. The school will discuss safe adaptations for PE or practical activities with the family.
- Make-up, false nails and decorative nail products are not appropriate for the primary school day unless agreed as a reasonable adjustment or for a specific event.
- Badges linked to school roles or school-approved activities may be worn. Other badges, slogans or messages must be appropriate for a primary school and consistent with safeguarding, safety and political impartiality.

8 Equality, inclusion and individual adjustments

The Federation will not apply this policy in a way that unlawfully discriminates. We will consider reasonable and proportionate adaptations for disability, special educational needs, sensory differences, medical conditions, religion or belief, race, sex, gender reassignment, pregnancy, or another relevant individual circumstance. This may include alternative fabrics, fastenings, footwear, layers, lengths, fits, head coverings or PE arrangements.

Families should speak to the Head of School, SENCO or school office. Requests will be considered through respectful discussion with the child and family, with safety and full participation at the centre of the decision. Evidence will only be requested where it is genuinely necessary.

9 Weather and temporary flexibility

School leaders may temporarily relax or adapt uniform expectations during very hot, cold or adverse weather, including in response to weather-health alerts. Children may also wear practical additional clothing for walking or cycling. Safety and wellbeing take priority over colour preferences.

10 Affordability, suppliers and second-hand uniform

Generic items may be bought from any suitable retailer. Branded sweatshirts and cardigans are currently available through Gooddies and Clive Mark Schoolwear; current ordering information is published on the

Federation website. Mentioning suppliers does not make generic items branded or restrict where non-branded items may be purchased.

The Governing Body will review supply arrangements, costs, quality and value for money. It will avoid frequent specification changes and, if change is necessary, use transition periods wherever possible so that usable uniform is not wasted.

Second-hand uniform is available through each school. Families may contact or visit the relevant school office to ask what is available, donate clean usable items or request support discreetly. Access to second-hand uniform will not depend on attending a paid event. A small voluntary donation may be invited, but inability to donate will not prevent a family from receiving needed uniform.

Any family experiencing difficulty with uniform costs is encouraged to contact the school office or Head of School in confidence. The school may be able to provide second-hand items, lend kit, allow a temporary alternative or signpost other support. A child will not miss lessons, breaktimes, PE, clubs, trips or representation of the school because their family cannot afford uniform.

11 Non-uniform and themed days

The Federation will consider affordability and inclusion when planning non-uniform, costume or themed days. Expectations will be shared in advance, low-cost or no-cost options will be acceptable, and participation will not depend on making a financial contribution.

12 When uniform expectations are not met

Staff will respond discreetly, proportionately and with curiosity about the reason. The first response will normally be a reminder, conversation and offer of practical help. Before any action is considered, the school will take account of financial hardship, availability of clean clothing, SEND, disability, medical needs, religion or belief, family circumstances and the effect on attendance and wellbeing.

Uniform concerns will be managed in line with the Behaviour Policy. A pupil will not be excluded from classroom teaching or other aspects of school life because their family cannot afford the correct uniform. Persistent deliberate non-compliance will be addressed with parents through discussion and support.

13 Consultation, concerns and complaints

The Federation will seek the views of pupils and parents when making significant changes, particularly about cost, comfort, inclusion and practicality. Questions or requests for an adjustment should first be raised with the class teacher, school office or leadership team. Concerns that are not resolved informally may be pursued through the Federation Complaints Policy, available on the website.

14 Monitoring and review

The Governing Body will review this policy, as a minimum, when legislation changes. Reviews will consider total cost, the price of individual and higher-cost items, supply arrangements, second-hand access, equality impacts, pupil and parent views, complaints and any change in law or guidance.

References

- **Department for Education Cost of school uniforms:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>
- **Department for Education Developing school uniform policy:** <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform/school-uniforms>
- **Federation website Emscote Infant School uniform:** <https://www.allsaintsemscotefederation.co.uk/page/?pid=66&title=Uniform>
- **Federation website All Saints' CE Junior School uniform:** <https://www.allsaintsemscotefederation.co.uk/page/?pid=77&title=School+Uniform>