Bligh Primary School Uniform Policy

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- promote a sense of belonging and pride in our school community;
- support our school values of Honesty, Empathy, Achievement, Resilience and Team-work;
- ensure that children are dressed appropriately for a safe, effective learning environment;
- keep the cost of school uniform as reasonable as possible, in line with the statutory guidance issued by the Department for Education (DfE). (gov.uk)

2. Scope

This policy applies to all pupils at Bligh Primary School from Reception to Year 6 and covers expectations for everyday uniform, PE kit, and acceptable alternatives.

3. Our Uniform Expectations

From our school website:

- Reception (Year R): sky-blue polo shirt; maroon school sweatshirt or cardigan; grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress or blue & white checked summer dress; sensible black shoes (Velcro fastening or slip-on); optional school fleece. (blighprimaryschool.co.uk)
- Years 1-6: sky-blue shirt; maroon & sky-blue tie; maroon school sweatshirt or cardigan; grey trousers, skirt or pinafore or blue & white checked summer dress; sensible black shoes; optional school fleece. (blighprimaryschool.co.uk)
- PE Kit (all years): black shorts; trainers; PE T-shirt (colour notified at time of starting). (blighprimaryschool.co.uk)

4. Retailers and Buying Options

Parents may purchase uniform from the approved supplier:

- Uniform Base — the school's chosen supplier. (Uniformbase)
  We also encourage families to purchase suitable uniform items (e.g., plain grey trousers or skirts, plain black shoes) from high street or supermarket alternatives where they conform to the school's colour and style expectations, to help keep costs down.

5. Keeping Costs Reasonable

In line with DfE guidance, the school will:

- ensure that branded items are kept to a minimum (so that parents are not obliged to purchase large numbers of items from a single supplier). (gov.uk)
- allow generic, non-branded items where acceptable (e.g., plain grey trousers or skirts, plain black shoes).
- periodically review supplier arrangements to ensure value for money, and enable competition or multiple supply options where feasible. (Competition and Markets Authority)

6. Uniform Support for Families in Financial Difficulty

We recognise that purchasing school uniform can present a burden for some families. Accordingly:

- Parents/carers experiencing financial difficulty or requiring support should contact the school office in confidence to discuss assistance.
- The school, in liaison with the Bligh Fund Raising Committee (BFC), runs a used uniform shop (second-hand uniform stall) where good quality pre-loved items (sweatshirts, cardigans, ties, etc) are available at very low cost or free.
- The school will sign-post parental eligibility for any local council grants or support schemes for uniform costs.
- If needed, we will ensure that no child is prevented from attending because they cannot afford the correct uniform.

7. Uniform-Related Conduct

- It is expected children attend in the correct uniform every day. The school will work with parents to ensure support if difficulties occur.
- Shoes should be sensible and safe (plain black; no logos; no open-toe or high heels).
- Summer dresses (blue & white checked) may be worn in warm weather; trousers and skirts may be worn throughout the year.
- Sweatshirts, cardigans, ties should carry the school colour; logo branding is optional where plain items are acceptable.
- PE kit should be available on the required days; plain black shorts and trainers are acceptable; the school PE T-shirt must be worn to keep consistency.

- Uniform should be labelled with the child's name to avoid loss.

- The school reserves the right to clarify acceptable variations (e.g., for religious dress, hair styles, uniform alterations) and will ensure fairness and inclusivity, in line with equalities legislation.

8. Lost, Damaged or Non-Conforming Uniform

- If uniform items are lost or damaged, the school may provide temporary replacement items (via the used uniform shop) until new items can be purchased.

- If children repeatedly fail to wear the correct uniform, the school will intervene with parents/carers to identify and address any underlying issue, including financial or logistic obstacles.

9. Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Head Teacher and the Governing Body (or appropriate Academy Trust committee) to ensure it remains up-to-date, affordable, and compliant with current guidance.

10. Conclusion

By following this policy we aim to ensure that all children at Bligh Primary School feel proud, safe and ready to learn, while also ensuring that uniform remains affordable and practical for families.

Approved by the Governing Body: November 2025
Next review: September 2027
