



# THE HERMITAGE SCHOOLS

*Inspire, Learn, Achieve*

## Uniform Policy

Persons Responsible:	Senior Leadership Team
Date Adopted:	July 2013
Date of last review:	Autumn Term 2024
Date of next review:	Autumn Term 2027

### Aims

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

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- Engenders a feeling of belonging.
- Is practical and distinctive.
- Identifies the children with the school.
- Is not distracting in class (as fashion clothing might be).
- Makes children feel equal to one another in terms of appearance.
- Reflects the sense both of community and of diversity that the school takes pride in.
- Is regarded as suitable and good value for money, by the majority of parents.

### The Uniform

- Charcoal or dark grey skirt/culottes/pinafore dress on or below the knee.
- Charcoal or dark grey trousers. The style must be plain – no flares, cropped, drain-pipes, markings, fashion stitching, slits, denim, corduroy, hipsters, combats or chino styles.
- Plain collared, long or short-sleeve, white cotton/poly-cotton shirt or polo shirt, tucked in. No tailored designs or embroidery. The top button may be left open.
- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo.
- Black, grey or white socks. No trainer socks.
- Black or grey plain woollen-type tights. No nylon or patterned tights.
- Black belt (optional). Belts must be plain black with a plain buckle. No fashion belts.
- Sturdy/sensible black school shoes (*If your child has shoes with laces, please ensure that they can do them up*). No boots, trainers, slipper-style, slip-ons, sling-backs or heels are allowed for health and safety reasons. A maximum 4cm heel is allowed.  
Boots can be worn to and from school, if the child changes into the permitted footwear on arrival at school.
- Coat or jacket. No hoodies, corduroy or denim jackets.
- Book bag or small rucksack.
- Blue and white checked dress (optional - may be worn only in the summer term and the first half of the autumn term).

At The Hermitage, we are passionate about learning outside of the classroom. This means that, throughout the year, lessons are often taught outside – whatever the weather! For this reason, it is important that children come to school with appropriate outer clothing for learning outside such as a waterproof coat and wellies.

**PE kit:**

- Navy tracksuit top and bottoms. No large motifs or stripes. A small brand logo is acceptable.
- Navy shorts. No large motifs or stripes. A small brand logo is acceptable.
- Plain white T-shirt.
- White ankle socks.
- Trainers for outdoor use only. Any trainers or football boots for after school clubs should be kept in a boot bag or other suitable bag.

**Swimming kit:**

**Boys**

- Trunks or swimming shorts. Shorts must be no longer than knee-length.
- Towel.
- Swimming cap.

**Girls**

- One-piece swimming costume.
- Towel.
- Swimming cap.

**All clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name.** This is especially important as uniform items look similar and can easily be confused for another child's. The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost items.

All uniform items can be purchased from Valentino Schoolwear in Knaphill. Non-logo items are widely available from other local uniform stockists.

**Hair and headwear**

- Hair should be kept tidy so as not to be a distraction, with a sensible cut. No highlights or colouring. It must not be shorter than grade 2. No sculpture lines, shapes or patterns cut into hair or eyebrows are permitted.
- Hair that is longer than shoulder length must be tied back at all times. Sensible hair accessories, e.g. hairbands, ties and small clips, are allowed to keep hair tidy, but must be in school colours (navy, royal blue, black or white). No fancy bands, oversize clips or ties, flowers, etc., may be worn.
- Hard hairbands must be removed during PE and Games sessions.
- On sunny days children may bring a cap to school to wear when outside the building. Caps should be in school colours. Large brimmed straw hats, etc., are not permitted.
- No headwear (e.g. caps) may be worn during class time or inside the school buildings, except for religious or medical reasons.

**Jewellery**

- No jewellery apart from a maximum of one small, plain metal stud in each ear lobe may be worn. No other earring styles, including small hoops and studs containing coloured stones of any description are permitted. Earrings must be removed for PE, Games and swimming lessons and children must be able to do this themselves; staff are not allowed to help children to remove

earrings. Children will not be allowed to join in PE, Games and swimming lessons with plasters covering earrings.

- A small watch may be worn. Watches must be removed for PE, Games and swimming lessons.
- No charity wristbands are permitted unless they are sold by the school and then only on the day of sale. Wristbands must be removed for PE, Games and swimming lessons.
- All jewellery and watches are at all times the responsibility of the child to whom they belong. The school cannot take any responsibility for any jewellery or watches that are lost in school.
- For a child that wishes to have their ears pierced, it is recommended that this should be done during the summer holiday to allow time to heal and to give the child confidence to remove the studs themselves. If it is done at another time, they will still be required to remove the studs themselves for PE, Games and swimming lessons.
- Only school badges may be worn. The exception to this is birthday badges.

### **Make-up and nail polish**

Fingernails should be natural and kept at a length appropriate for safe participation in PE.

Both make-up and nail polish are not permitted to be worn in school. This includes school trips and non-uniform days unless it is as part of a dress-up day costume.

### **Non-uniform or dressing-up days**

Occasionally the school has a non-uniform day. This may be to raise money for good causes, as a team reward or as part of a curriculum topic. Parents will be notified in advance, via the school newsletter or Parentmail, when the non-uniform day will be and if there is a dressing up theme. Even though pupils do not need to wear uniform to school on these days, parents and children are reminded that the following rules of dress still apply for health and safety reasons as well as reasons of decorum:

- No extremely low cut, strapless or cropped tops.
- Sensible shoes must be worn e.g. school shoes or trainers. No slipper-style, slip-ons, sling-backs, flip-flops or heels are allowed for health and safety reasons. A maximum 4cm heel is allowed.
- No make-up or nail polish can be worn unless it is part of a dress-up day costume.
- No jewellery apart from a maximum of one small, plain metal stud in each ear and a small watch. If the school is raising money through the sale of charity wrist bands, then these may be worn on the day of sale only.
- If children are using hair dye as part of a costume, then this must be washed out by the following school day.
- Hair that is longer than shoulder length must be tied back.

### **School trips**

Children are expected to wear school uniform on all school trips unless specific instructions have been given not to do so. Parents will receive notification via Parentmail in advance of the trip of any specific dress requirements. Parents should always consider weather conditions on a school trip day and ensure their child is provided with suitable outer clothing e.g. waterproof jacket, gloves, etc. in cold or wet weather and sun cap in hot weather.

### **Lost property**

The school will maintain a lost property box. The box will be checked regularly and named items will be returned to the child. At regular intervals throughout the year, depending on the amount of lost property gathered, parents/carers will be invited to look at the un-named items to identify any of their child's lost items. This is usually carried out towards the end of each half term with

parents/carers being notified in advance that a table containing the lost property will set up outside the children's entrances for parents/carers to look at, at the end of the school day. Following this, any un-named items remaining will be sold or disposed of with any proceeds going to the school.

### **Equal opportunities**

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should first speak to the Executive Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. The Local Governing Committee works with the Executive Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the responsibility of the governors to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

### **Failure to comply**

If any pupil arrives at school dressed inappropriately, they will either be asked to change what they are wearing or be given a spare uniform to wear for the rest of day.

Please note that failure to comply with this policy may result in the parent/carer being contacted to ensure that the correct uniform is in place on the following school day. Further non-compliance may result in the parent/carer being requested to attend a meeting at the school to discuss the matter further.

### **Questions or concerns**

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this uniform policy, please contact the school office or your child's class teacher in the first instance.