



The Ryleys

Girls & Boys Preparatory School

The Ryleys School Uniform and Appearance Policy

Monitoring: Headteacher

Named Person Responsible: Mrs Julia Langford

Policy Review Date: September 2025

Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform which is available to purchase from Express Uniforms in the school shop or their website. Uniform is also available from our pre-loved shop. Only items from the official school list are permissible in school which includes outdoor coats.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- is practical and smart
- identifies the children with the school
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school which includes necklaces, rings and bracelets. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears (not hoops or anything large) or small objects of religious significance. We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons. The school advises parents who wish their children to have their ears pierced to do so at the beginning of the

school holidays. Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems eg. Diabetes or epilepsy.

Hairstyles

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts. Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (no shorter than a number 2), extreme patterns 'V' styles, Mohican cuts, or dyed, tipped or dipped hair are also forbidden. Pupils with long hair should also tie it back and hair should not touch the collar.

Footwear

We require all children to wear black shoes as stated in the uniform list. The shoes should be sturdy and practical for running around in. Slip on/pump style shoes are not advisable as they are not safe for activity. In winter time, winter black shoes or practical black boots may be worn if there is snow on the ground – fashionable boots like Ugg boots and others are not allowed to be worn in school. Children coming to school during the winter months who wear boots should bring with them black school shoes to change into. Trainers are only permissible for PE and Games.

The Role of Parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have an important role to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. It is essential that all items of uniform are clearly labelled to prevent these being mislaid.

The Role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented consistently. It is the governors' responsibility 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 hardwearing, safe and practical.

The school has used the Department for Education guidance on school uniform and agrees with the guidance given in the DfE booklet which states: *'The school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. The Department strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage identity with, and support for, the school's ethos; ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils. The Department also encourages schools to have a very clear position about appearance such as hair colour, style and length and the wearing of jewellery and make-up.'*