Sheringham Woodfields School

Sheringham Woodfields School
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School Uniform Policy	
Approved by SMT: 10th September 2026	Approved by Governors: 13th October 2026
Next Review date: Autumn 2028	Person(s) responsible for review: Head Teacher

1. Our Philosophy and Aims

At Sheringham Woodfields School, we believe that learners should feel comfortable and ready to learn. While we do not have a compulsory uniform that families must buy or pupils must wear, we recognise that school-branded clothing can provide a sense of belonging, identity, and a helpful visual cue for pupils that they are in a learning environment. Our goal is to ensure clothing is never a barrier to attendance or participation.

2. General Expectations for Clothing

Pupils are encouraged to wear clothing that makes them feel comfortable and allows them to move freely throughout the school day.

- **Appropriateness:** Clothing should be suitable for a school environment and safe for activities such as walking, running and messy play
- **Weather Adaptations:** We encourage families to ensure pupils have appropriate clothing for extreme weather (e.g., warm coats in winter, lighter options in summer).
- **PE and Physical Activity:** For PE, pupils should wear practical and comfortable clothing suitable for the activity. There are no branded requirements for PE kit to ensure it remains affordable for all.

3. Optional Branded Items

While not required, the school offers branded items for families who wish to purchase them.

- **Available Items:** T-Shirts, Polo Shirts, Jumpers, Coats, Cardigans and Hats
- **Supplier:** Branded items can be purchased from https://myclothing.com/collections/sheringham-woodfields-school-9375/
- **Compliance with DfE Limits:** In line with the Education Act 1996, we keep branded items to a minimum. As we have no compulsory branded items, we are fully compliant with the requirement to limit such items to three or fewer.

4. Second-hand Uniform Provision

To support our commitment to affordability and environmental sustainability, we ensure that second-hand branded items are available for parents to acquire.

- Information on how to access or donate second-hand items can be found on our website or by contacting the school office.

5. Inclusivity and Human Rights

This policy is designed to be as inclusive as possible, complying with the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998.

- Religion and Belief: We act reasonably in accommodating religious dress requirements (e.g., head coverings or specific artefacts).
- Disability and SEN: As a special needs school, we are flexible in our approach to clothing for all of our pupils to ensure no item of clothing creates a challenge for their comfort or wellbeing.
- Gender: Our policy is flexible and avoids rigid rules based on gender stereotypes.

6. Non-uniform days and Themed Events

At various points in the school year, we may arrange themed days or fundraising events (such as World Book Day, Red Nose Day, or Children in Need) to support the wider curriculum and personal development.

For these events:

- **Participation is entirely optional:** At all stages of planning and communication, we make it clear that there is no requirement for pupils to take part.
- **No financial barrier:** Taking part is never dependent on a financial contribution or donation.
- **Inclusive approach to costumes:** While pupils may be encouraged to dress according to a theme, we aim to ensure that no family feels pressured to purchase expensive costumes. Simple or DIY versions are always welcomed and encouraged.
- **Appropriate clothing:** Even on non-uniform days, clothing must be practical and suitable for the school environment. We do not permit clothing with offensive logos, inappropriate slogans, or political messaging.

7. Support and Compliance

As clothing is non-compulsory, "non-compliance" is not a disciplinary issue in the traditional sense. However, if a pupil's clothing is unsafe or significantly inappropriate for school:

- Staff will deal with the matter sensitively and proportionately.
- The school will work with the family to resolve any issues, considering whether financial hardship is a factor.

8. Complaints

Disputes regarding this policy or specific clothing requirements should be resolved through the school's standard **Complaints Policy**, which is available on our website.