Garlinge and Parkside Schools
and Nurseries Federation

School Uniform Policy

School Names	Garlinge Primary School and Nursery Parkside Community Foundation Primary School
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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers.
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- Encourage children to wear uniform.

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils.
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back).
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs.
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents and carers to get in touch with the Heads of School who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost.
- Provides the best value for money for parent and carers.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost.

- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents and carers to acquire second-hand uniform items.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents and carers of any changes.
- Consulting with parents, carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school uniform

There is no requirement for pupils to wear branded uniform as generic items are acceptable.

The school uniform for **Garlinge Primary School and Nursery** consists of:

Item	Colour
Trousers or skirt	Grey
School Shorts or Pinafore Dress (in hotter weather)	Grey
Pullover, cardigan, or sweatshirt	Jade Green
Shirt, blouse, or polo shirt	White
Fleece	Black (with school logo optional)
Footwear (preferably not trainers)	Black

PE / Swimming Kit	
Item	**Colour**
Shorts	Black
Jogging Bottoms (suitable clothing for cold weather to be worn)	Black
T-shirt	Child's House Colour
Trainers/plimsolls	Any
Swimming Trunks or Full Swimsuit	Any

The school uniform for **Parkside Community Foundation Primary School** consists of:

Item	Colour
Trousers or skirt	Grey or Black
School Shorts or Pinafore Dress (in hotter weather)	Blue
Pullover, cardigan, or sweatshirt	Navy Blue
Shirt, blouse, or polo shirt	White
Fleece	Navy Blue
Footwear (preferably not trainers)	Black

PE / Swimming Kit	
Item	**Colour**
Shorts	Black
Jogging Bottoms (suitable clothing for cold weather to be worn)	Black
T-shirt	Child's House Colour
Trainers/plimsolls	Any
Swimming Trunks or Full Swimsuit	Any

During PE lessons all long hair should be tied up, nails kept short, and jewellery removed, where possible. Where jewellery cannot be removed such as for medical and/or religious reasons, these need to be made safe.

Earrings should not be worn during PE lessons and parents, carers and pupils must take responsibility for their removal where possible. However, if earrings cannot be removed, then action must be taken to make participation safe (refer to the PE Policy).

4.2 Where to purchase it

All items of uniform for **Garlinge Primary School and Nursery** with the school logo is available from:

The Schoolwear Centre
85 High Street
Margate
CT9 1JL

PE T-shirts are available from www.ambitionsport.com or Ace Attire Printers, 72 St Mildred's Road, Westgate, CT8 8RF

All new starters attending Garlinge Primary School and Nursery are provided a book bag and water bottle free of charge on their first day.

The Parent Teacher and Friends Association (PTFA) of Garlinge Primary School and Nursery arranges a second-hand uniform sale on the school premises regularly. Parents and carers are notified via the MCAS parent app.

All items of uniform for **Parkside Community Foundation Primary School** with the school logo is available from:

The school office or My Clothing, www.myclothing.com

All new starters attending Parkside Community Foundation School are provided a full set of uniform free of charge on their first day.

Second-hand uniform is offered to parents on a termly basis for a donation of choice.

Generic items are available from discount retailers.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are encouraged to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises.
- Travelling to and from school.
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required).

Pupils are also expected to contact the Head of School if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean.
- Clearly labelled with the child's name.
- In good condition.

Parents and carers are also expected to contact the Head of School if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics.
- The cost of the uniform.

Parents and carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally.
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's Complaints Policy.

The school will work closely with parents and carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by holding conversations with the children and parents.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this Uniform Policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The Governing Board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context.
- Is implemented fairly across the school.
- Takes into account the views of parents, carers and pupils.
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years. At every review, it will be approved by the Senior Leadership Team.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- PE Policy