# Reinwood I + N School
# School Uniform Policy
**(Reviewed Annually)**

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| **Reviewed September 2024** | **Reviewed September 2025** |
| **Reviewed September 2026** | |
| **Next Review July 2027** | |

## 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
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

## 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 sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- 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
- 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

## 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 or pre-loved items
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible: for example, a jumper/cardigan with the school logo can be worn but isn't essential
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- 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
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as providing a school kit that can be worn for the event
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Promoting the use of pre-loved uniform from The Uniform Exchange
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## Our school's uniform

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school, and encourages identity with the school
- prevents children coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition:
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, of good quality and good value for money, by most parents.

**Our uniform consists of:**

- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan **which may be** embroidered with the school logo but **doesn't have to be**
- White polo shirt
- Grey/black trousers, skirt, pinafore or knee length shorts. For some children it may be advisable for them to wear elastic waisted garments.
- Black or dark coloured shoes/trainer type shoes, preferably with a Velcro type fastener to allow for independence
- In the summer blue/white summer dresses / grey/black knee length shorts
- Tights must be in keeping with the school colours – grey, black or blue (no bright colours)
- Royal blue book bag (available from school), **no** rucksacks

**PE Kit – children will come to school wearing these items ready for PE**

- black or navy-blue jogging bottoms
- black or navy-blue jumper - no hoods for safety reasons
- plain white t-shirt/ school t-shirt
- Velcro trainers
- earrings must be removed or covered before school
- Hoodies and named items i.e., spiderman/football kits are not permitted.

**Suppliers**

Branded items (if you want to purchase them) can be bought from a variety of suppliers.

All other items can be bought from other shops e.g. Asda, Sainsburys, Tesco etc

We promote the use of pre-loved uniform which is available from the Uniform Exchange. You can order via the following link https://www.uniform-exchange.org/free-school-uniform/ We have regular Uniform Exchange stalls during our events for parents and will let you know when these are going to be.

**Footwear**

- Children should wear dark coloured shoes to school where. Platform soles, open toed sandals and high heels all have the potential to pose a safety risk and should not be worn in school. Our school promotes the use of practical shoes that are well maintained and reflect our commitment to smart appearance and pride in our school identity. Socks should be worn at all times.
- When **wellingtons** are being worn for school, a clothes peg with the child's name on will help to keep the wellingtons together. It is expected that, when wellingtons are being worn, alternative shoes/pumps will be sent to school. Please do not send slippers, as these can be dangerous when children are walking on polished floors.

**Jewellery**

- No jewellery including watches/step trackers should be worn in school, particularly earrings which are a potential safety hazard (please see below)
- If ears are to be pierced this should happen at the beginning of the summer holidays to allow time for the ears to heal. For children who have had their ears pierced, they must use micropore tape (or equivalent) to fully cover both sides of the earring while they heal. The tape should be of sufficient thickness to prevent the piercing penetrating the bone behind the ear should an unintentional blow be received from someone or some item of equipment, such as a ball. This needs to be applied every day until the earrings can be removed. After this time earrings must be removed for school on a daily basis.
- If the healing process for ears that have been pierced is taking much longer than the recommended 6 weeks retainers are a safe option where total removal isn't possible. Retainers must be flat at the front and back of the ear, so they cannot cause damage if a blow or ball hits the side of the head and they don't need to be taped. Once earrings can be removed they should be replaced with retainers for school if they can be removed entirely.

**Extreme Haircuts and General Appearance**

- Temporary tattoos, nail varnish or any other form of make-up are not permitted in school. The school does not permit children to have haircuts that would bring unwanted attention to the child or could serve as a distraction to other children. Hair should be of a 'natural' colour. Long hair should be tied up and ribbons, bobbles, hair bands and slides should be simple and practical in style and in line with school colours. **Fashion accessories are not permitted, and children will be asked to remove them**. Short hair should not have 'fashion' markings shaved into it.

**Extreme Weather**

Children should dress appropriately for extreme weather conditions. In the summer it is vital that children have a protective sun hat or cap. Sun cream should be applied to children before they

arrive at school on hot summer days. Boots and sufficiently warm waterproof coats should be provided in extremely wet or snowy weather.

(A PING will be sent out about any changes to uniform due to extreme weather conditions)

**Early Years**

As outdoor play is a vital part of the Early Years curriculum, the children in the Early Years Foundation Stage should be dressed appropriately for all kinds of weather.

**Forest School / Outdoor Learning**

Please can children come with their own wellingtons, but we do have supply of spare ones if they forget. Please send your child in uniform suitable for the weather. Waterproof outer garments are supplied by school.

**Lost Property**

In order to return lost property, all uniform, including shoes, PE kits and personal items should be **clearly marked with the child's name**. If you have lost an item please first check with the class teacher as it may be in your child's locker/hung on peg. If it isn't then please call at the school office.

## Expectations for our school community

**Pupils**

Pupils are expected 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)

**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 are also expected to contact the Headteacher/Deputy Headteacher, 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 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

**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 the Headteacher.

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.

**Governors**

The governing body 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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The governing body will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

The Governors will also promote pre-loved uniform

## Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every year. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governing Body.

## Equality Impact Assessment

This policy will be evaluated and monitored for its impact on pupils, staff, parents and carers from the different groups that make up our school. For any changes that affect equality for all, an impact assessment would be carried out. This policy has been assessed for Equality Impact Assessment and has a high priority.

## Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy

- Complaints Policy and Procedures