

The Vineyard

School uniform policy



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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
- Clarify our expectations for school 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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- 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 Frances Bracegirdle (headteacher), who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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.

In response to the latest government guidance we have significantly reduced the number of branded items that are required. Please continue to use any appropriate branded uniform until it needs to be replaced. However, if you still wish to purchase branded items you may be able to do so until stock runs out.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items,
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for inter school competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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
- Consulting with parents 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's uniform

In response to the latest government guidance we have significantly reduced the number of branded items. Please continue to use any appropriate branded uniform until it needs to be replaced. However, if you still wish to purchase branded items you may be able to do so until stock runs out.

The school uniform is as follows:

School Uniform
Navy skirts, pinafores, tailored school trousers or shorts (not corduroy, denim or cargo pants)
Vineyard or white polo shirts
Black, navy or red plain hair bands
Navy or black school shoes - no trainers, sandals or boots
Navy or red tights or socks
School sweatshirt or school cardigan/jumper with logo
Light blue and white checked summer dress

Please ensure that your child brings a coat to school. Trainers are not considered suitable footwear unless there is a PE lesson.

PE Uniform
Navy sport shorts or tracksuit bottoms no logo
School PE shirt with logo
School PE hoodie without logo or plain navy blue hoodie/sweatshirt
Sport trainers for outdoor PE
Change of socks

Long hair should be tied up.

Pupils must wear their PE kit in school on their PE days only . If your child has a sports club before or after school they need to get changed into or out of school uniform unless they also have a PE lesson.

Jewellery

In the interests of your child's safety, please ensure that jewellery is not worn in school, other than for religious reasons. Young children are physically active in school and accidents can result from earrings, rings, necklaces, bracelets and braids being caught or pulled. Children may wear wristwatches providing that they take personal responsibility for them.

School bag

For EYFS and KS1 this should be either a Vineyard bookbag or plain navy bookbag

For KS2 this should be a small backpack.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Our current school uniform supplier is:

- Mapac Group Ltd
- <https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/TheVineyardTW10>

Non branded uniform items can be purchased via any supermarket.

The school will retender the uniform contract every **five years**, whether changes to the uniform are made or not.. The governing board will be able to demonstrate how uniform is procured at the best value for money. The headteacher will work to ensure that the items are procured as cheaply as possible without compromising on the quality, e.g. by requesting standard-style items from the supplier rather than more intricate and unique designs.

4.3 Uniform assistance

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. School uniform assistance is provided on request up to 50% of school clothing. The budget for the school uniform assistance scheme comes from pupil premium funds and also Richmond Parish_Lands Charity (for non PPG children). We encourage parents to purchase second hand uniform from the PTA at a reduced rate.

To claim school uniform assistance, parents should be eligible for FSM. For non FSM parents, all claims will be authorised by the headteacher.

Families who meet the criteria should complete the [School Uniform Assistance Application Form](#) and return it to the school office.

The PTA holds second-hand school uniforms sales throughout the academic year. Their second hand uniform shop is currently open every Monday, Wednesday and Thursday, between 2.45 and 3.15 and parents can browse and buy our items at this time. They also offer special opening times for those who need it. All such requests should be emailed uniform@vineyardpta.org

Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

4.3 Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name. Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box in school. All lost property is passed on to the PTA at the end of each week where parents can search for their child(re) garments. The rest of the uniform will be washed and if suitable will go on sale as second hand. All labelled lost uniforms will be returned to a child's classroom.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact Frances Bracegirdle on headteacher@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk 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 full name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Frances Bracegirdle on headteacher@vineyard.richmond.sch.uk 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.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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 our behaviour policy.

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 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, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

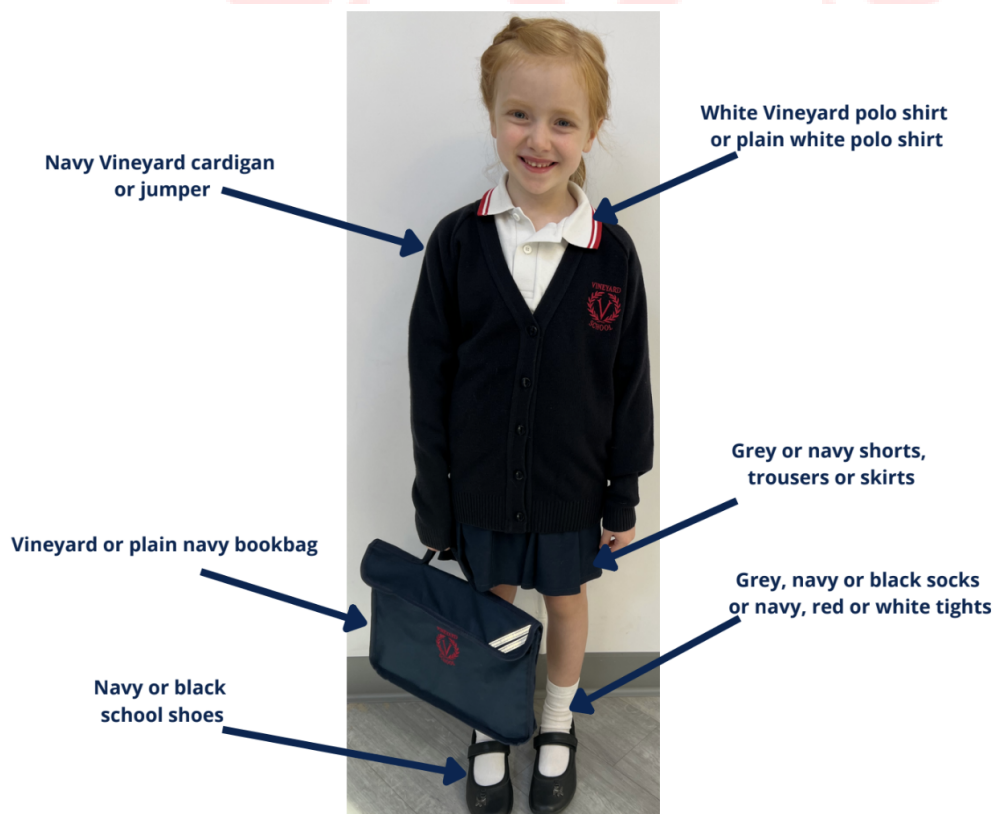
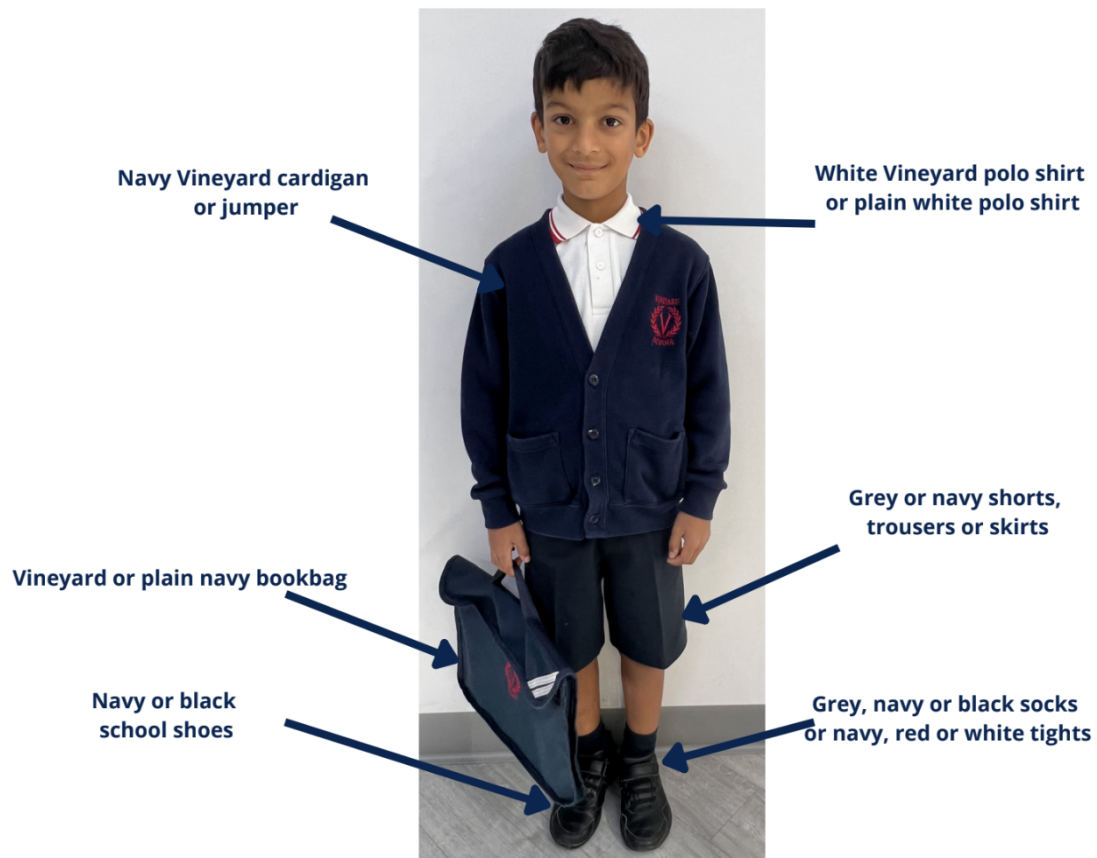
6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by The Headship Team. At every review, it will be approved by a governing body committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy



Vineyard sports top

Navy or white socks



Vineyard or plain navy hoodie

Navy skort/shorts/trackies

Trainers



Vineyard sports top

Navy or white socks



Vineyard or plain navy hoodie

Navy skort/shorts/trackies

Trainers

