



Victor Seymour Infants' School **UNIFORM POLICY FOR PUPILS**

Reviewed Spring 2023

(in line with the school's work on Equality, diversity and inclusion)

Introduction

This policy was originally drawn up after consultation with parents/carers, staff and Governors. The review involved consultation with staff, governors, pupils and the Parent Champions. It has been adapted most recently following the school's review of equality, diversity and inclusion which has led to this version.

Rationale

At Victor Seymour Infants' School, we wish to promote an atmosphere and ethos which encourages effort, enjoyment and a celebration of the achievements of all our pupils. The school's drive for these high standards is also reflected in the pride we take in our school uniform creating the feeling of belonging and inclusion. The school does not discriminate unlawfully on the grounds of sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, and religion or belief. We are mindful of the concept of 'indirect' discrimination in which some are at a disadvantage because they cannot comply in practice.

At Victor Seymour Infants' School, we respect variations to our school uniform if they are directly related to established religious beliefs or cultural traditions. Any variation will be considered on an individual basis and decisions will remain at the discretion of the Headteacher and the Governing Body.

At Victor Seymour Infants' School, we believe that all children should wear school uniform for the following reasons:

- School uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of our school and setting an appropriate tone.
- It presents a corporate image to parents/carers and the wider community.
- As encouraged by the DfE, as it instils a sense of pride.
- It supports positive behaviour and discipline.
- It encourages support for the school ethos and its identity, particularly when children are taken out of school on educational visits.
- It ensures that pupils all feel welcome.
- It protects children from social pressures to dress in a particular way.
- It nurtures cohesion and promotes harmony between different groups of pupils represented in school.
- It supports effective teaching and learning.

Guidelines - Implementation of the policy

Care has been taken regarding the suitability, availability and cost of the uniform.

- The school purchases the uniform from recognised supplier who have tested the material for durability, and frequent washing.
- The uniform is for sale online in a range of sizes from Macpac.
<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/victorseymourinfantschoolsm52je>
- The school has negotiated a cost from the supplier, based on best value principles and is therefore relatively inexpensive. The school does have a limited number of second-hand items which are available for families suffering financial hardship. The school is very sensitive to these parents/carers to avoid any embarrassment. The school continually reviews the cost of these items to achieve best value. Order forms displaying the range of items and prices are obtained from the school office or on the school website.
- Items without the school emblem are available from supermarkets and other competitively priced outlets.

What we want children to wear:

Grey (not black) trousers, skirts or pinafore dresses

Red sweatshirts, cardigans or fleeces

White polo shirts/t-shirts

White or grey socks or, in winter, plain tights

In warmer weather

Dresses made of red gingham or red stripy material if they prefer

Short, grey trousers if they prefer

Sports Kit

When children are taking part in PE lessons, they are expected to wear:

- White t-shirt,
- Red shorts
- Plimsolls (or trainers for outdoor PE)

In addition, for outdoor PE children are expected to wear:

- Track suit bottoms – any colour
- School sweatshirt – if appropriate (this is part of their daily uniform.)

PE kit bags are available.

Footwear Children are expected to wear sensible shoes, preferably black, and parents/carers are encouraged to buy those with Velcro rather than laces to promote independence. In the summer months, children may wear sandals which enclose the foot. The school does not allow the following:

Open toed shoes/sandals, open sided shoes/sandals, sling backs, high heels, jelly shoes (plastic), trainers or boots. These are not permitted due to inappropriate soles or uppers that do not provide adequately safe footwear for running around in the playground. Parents are to inform their child's class teacher if their child is not able to wear uniform footwear.

Jewellery Pupils are not permitted to wear jewellery in school.

Earrings are not encouraged, but if ears are pierced, only small studs can be worn. In order to comply with health and safety regulations, earrings **will not** be worn during PE activities and in exceptional circumstances will be covered with a plaster. Children will be asked to remove the earrings, if they can, and place them in a box provided by home, or an envelope by school. To avoid this parents/carers are asked to not send children into school wearing earrings on PE days.

No other items of jewellery should be worn.

Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any jewellery that is lost.

Watches These are permitted for children who are beginning to learn to tell the time as this provides additional learning opportunities. However, they must be removed during PE and will be looked after by the class teacher.

Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches that are lost.

Outdoor clothing Children should bring a coat to school each day, apart from in the warmer weather. Smart, shower proof jackets with the school logo are available from the school office to borrow if required.

Hats Children are to wear hats when it is sunny. These should, ideally, include hats with a flap covering the neck (foreign legion type), but peaked caps or hats that cover the head fully are acceptable. These can be purchased from the office.

Book bags These are designed to carry reading and library books as well as any communication between home and school and are available from Macpac.

No drinks should be carried in book bags.

Naming of clothing Parents/carers should ensure all items of clothing are named with either sewn-in nametags or indelible pen.

General Expectations

As well as children wearing school uniform, we expect their appearance to conform to the school's expectations.

- Long hair should be tied back at all times (this can prevent the spread of head lice), but children will also be asked to tie their long hair back during PE in order to comply with health and safety standards.
- No elaborate and inappropriate hair adornments.
- Shaved head patterns are not encouraged or considered appropriate.
- Transfers and nail varnish are not encouraged or considered appropriate.
- Children will be reminded to tuck their shirts in when coming to assembly and on other occasions when leaving class.

Role of the Class Teachers and Support Staff

- Set a good example of smart dress
- Remember that in our respective roles we serve the local community as a set of professionals
- Not to wear tracksuits/sports wear unless on days when Physical Education is being taught.

- No jeans or denim to be worn.
- Not to wear clothing that exposes the body inappropriately eg low neck lines or short skirts exposing the body unprofessionally.
- All staff have a duty to enforce the school uniform throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day to day discipline in the school.

Role of the Headteacher

- The Headteacher - to ensure that pupils and staff comply with the uniform policy agreed by the governing body.
- The Headteacher - has a duty to enforce the school uniform throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day to day discipline in the school.

Role of the Local Governing body

- To be receptive to any reasonable complaint from parents/carers concerning uniform; handling it respectfully and considering fully the issues they raise.

Role of the Parents/Carers

- To ensure that their child/children adhere to the school's uniform policy.
- Ensure that they come to school in uniform everyday unless there are special circumstances such as Christmas parties or charity fundraising.
- Inform the school if there are any issues or concerns with regard to uniform.