

Uniform Policy

October 2026

Prepared by: Acting Headteacher

Last Reviewed: November 2023

Approved by: Finance Committee, November 2026

Next Review due by: October 2029

Aims

Our uniform helps children feel that they belong to Feltham Hill and supports comfortable, active learning. This policy sets out our expectations, affordable options and the support available to families. It applies across the school, including Nursery and the Specialist Centre, with individual adjustments where needed.

This policy aims to explain our approach to affordable uniform and value for money, prevent unlawful discrimination and make expectations clear for pupils, parents, carers, staff and governors.

Uniform must support our LEARN values of Learn, Explore, Achieve, Respect and Nurture and allow children to take part in Busy Learning, outdoor learning and play.

Legislation and guidance

The governing board must have regard to the Department for Education statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms. This revision also reflects DfE guidance on developing school uniform policy and the Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998.

From 1 September 2026, primary schools must require no more than three compulsory branded uniform and PE items. Feltham Hill has one branded item: the school logo sweatshirt. This is optional; a plain green jumper or cardigan is equally acceptable. No other branded uniform or PE items are required.

Guidance used for this revision

Also informed by the supplied model school uniform policy for September 2026, dated December 2025. Template instructions and placeholders have been removed; current DfE guidance and Feltham Hill arrangements take precedence.

Department for Education, Cost of school uniforms, statutory guidance updated 6 July 2026.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>

Department for Education, Developing school uniform policy, guidance updated 8 October 2026.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform/school-uniforms>

Education Act 1996, as amended by the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026; Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021; Equality Act 2010; Human Rights Act 1998.

Equality and individual adjustments

All children may choose from the uniform options below. Staff will consider requests for adaptations with parents and carers, the SENCo and the Headteacher. Reasonable adjustments will be made for disabled pupils; flexibility will also support sensory, medical and other special educational needs, for example soft fabrics or elasticated trousers.

Parents and carers can request an adjustment through the school office, Headteacher or SENCo. Requests will be considered individually and agreed arrangements shared with relevant staff. If swimming is arranged, staff will consider suitable adaptations to swimwear for religious reasons, disability or discomfort.

Headscarves, religious garments and items of religious significance are permitted. Any safety concern will be discussed individually with the family, seeking a safe adjustment. Restrictions must have a clear, proportionate justification.

Hair expectations will respect natural hair, Afro-textured hair and cultural or religious hairstyles. Long hair may need to be secured for safe participation in particular activities. Uniform or appearance must never lead to bullying or discrimination; concerns will be addressed promptly.

Leadership and governing body responsibilities

The Headteacher oversees fair implementation and ensures staff understand the policy and agreed adjustments. The governing body is responsible for ensuring that requirements remain lawful, inclusive, practical and affordable.

Governors will check that the policy suits our school context, is applied fairly, reflects the views of parents, carers and pupils, and offers clothing that is practical and safe for all children.

Leaders will consider quality, durability and sustainability alongside price, encourage reuse and avoid unnecessary changes. Any significant proposed changes will be discussed with parents, carers and pupils in an age-appropriate way. Families will receive advance notice and suitable transition arrangements to reduce replacement costs.

The governing body will ensure that supply arrangements prioritise cost and value for money. Plain items will remain available from a range of retailers. Single-supplier contracts will be avoided unless justified. Where a contract is used, a competitive tendering process will be carried out at least every five years, in line with statutory guidance and applicable procurement law. Supplier arrangements will address complaints about quality and supply.

The approved policy, purchasing options and information about second-hand uniform will be published clearly on the school website. Paper copies and help understanding the requirements are available from the office.

Limiting the Cost of School Uniform

Families may buy plain uniform from any retailer, including supermarkets and second-hand outlets. No designer sportswear or particular commercial brand is required. Leaders will review individual prices and the total cost, including PE, weather clothing and replacements, before families buy uniform for September 2028. Cost must not deter applications or participation.

We will keep distinctive requirements to a minimum and avoid additional branded items for different classes, seasons or activities. Families will not be required to buy separate uniform for clubs or competitions. Where additional kit is needed, the school will consider lending it and permit suitable alternatives.

Compulsory branded items count towards the legal limit even when provided free or on loan. Providing an item does not remove the requirement to keep within the limit. No additional branded item will be required by Feltham Hill through these arrangements.

Expectations for school uniform

Children should wear the following everyday uniform, subject to agreed adjustments. Families can choose any of the listed alternatives; they do not need to buy every option.

Uniform is expected on school premises and on school trips or events where children represent the school, unless families are told otherwise. Children may travel in suitable outdoor clothing and change footwear when needed. The school supports safe, comfortable journeys to and from school.

- Green sweatshirt with a school logo, jumper or cardigan.
- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore.

Choose easy fastenings to encourage independent dressing and toileting; trousers and skirts without buttons are preferred.

- White polo shirt.
- White or grey socks, or black or grey tights.
- Black school shoes suitable for active play. Trainers are for PE, unless alternative footwear is agreed for an individual child.

Optional summer alternatives are:

- a green gingham dress or grey shorts with a white polo shirt.
- Safe, secure sandals may be worn; heels and flip-flops are not suitable.

Physical education

Children should come to school wearing their PE kit on their designated PE day.

- Black or grey shorts or tracksuit bottoms.
- White T-shirt.

- School jumper.
- Black trainers.

Nursery families should follow any activity-specific clothing advice provided by staff. Families of children in the Specialist Centre can discuss individual PE and clothing needs with Centre staff.

Weather and outdoor learning

Children need weather-appropriate clothing for outdoor learning: a coat and, when needed, a winter hat, scarf and gloves; or a light jacket and sun hat. These can be any practical style. Wellies may be worn or brought for outdoor activities, with school shoes available to change into.

During very hot, cold or adverse weather, the Headteacher may relax clothing requirements to support comfort and safety. Families will be told about temporary arrangements.

Jewellery and safety

Small stud earrings are permitted. All other jewellery should be removed, except religious or medically necessary items, for which safe arrangements will be agreed individually.

Where to purchase or acquire uniform

School logo sweatshirts can be purchased from the school office. Other uniform items and footwear may be purchased from any suitable retailer. Buying through the school is not a condition of attending or taking part in activities.

Second-hand uniform is available through the school office. Current and prospective families can ask the office staff about available sizes, donations and support. Access does not depend on attending a paid event. Information about these arrangements will be published on the school website and included in information for new families.

Families experiencing financial difficulty should contact the office, attendance and welfare staff or the Headteacher confidentially. The school will help with available uniform and agree practical arrangements. Support will be offered discreetly.

New families will be told how to obtain second-hand uniform before their child starts, with sufficient notice to make arrangements. The school will encourage donations of clean, usable items and explain any availability or costs through the office and website.

Non uniform and dressing up days

The school may arrange non-uniform days for celebrations, charity events and learning activities. Families will receive clear information about the date and suitable clothing. Comfortable clothing and safe footwear should allow children to learn and play as usual.

Charitable contributions are voluntary. Children can take part without donating or buying a costume or special outfit. Families may use clothes they already own; children may also wear their usual uniform.

Attendance-related own-clothes rewards follow the current attendance arrangements communicated to families. These are half-termly rewards, and the school will confirm the relevant date and class.

Expectations for our school community

Parents and carers

Parents and carers should help children wear appropriate uniform and PE clothing, clearly labelled with their name, and keep items clean and in good condition as far as reasonably possible. Please tell the school about financial, sensory, medical or other difficulties so that we can help.

Pupils

Children are encouraged to look after their belongings and dress independently with age-appropriate support. Our young pupils will not be blamed or shamed for clothing difficulties outside their control.

Staff

Staff will speak sensitively with families about concerns, understand the reason and offer support or agreed adjustments. Repeated concerns should be referred to the Headteacher. Missing or unclean uniform must not prevent attendance: children should come to school and families should contact us for help.

Where financial hardship prevents compliance, children will continue to access classroom teaching, playtime, PE, trips and other school activities. Staff will address any bullying relating to clothing through our Behaviour and Relationships Curriculum and anti-bullying arrangements.

Concerns and complaints

Parents and carers may raise questions, objections or requests for adjustments with the school office or Headteacher. We will work with families to find a practical solution. Unresolved concerns, including concerns about cost or discrimination, can be pursued through the school complaints procedure. Requests relating to protected characteristics will be carefully considered.

Monitoring arrangements

The Strategy team will review this policy every three years and earlier if legislation, guidance or school arrangements change. Leaders will check affordability and access to second-hand uniform, consider family feedback and review whether adjustments are working. The governing board will approve revisions. An earlier affordability check will take place before purchases for September 2027.

Links to other policies

Behaviour and Relationships Curriculum and anti-bullying arrangements.

Equality policy and equality objectives.

SEND policy and accessibility plan.

Attendance policy

Complaints procedure