



School Uniform Policy

"I am the vine; you are the branches.

If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit"

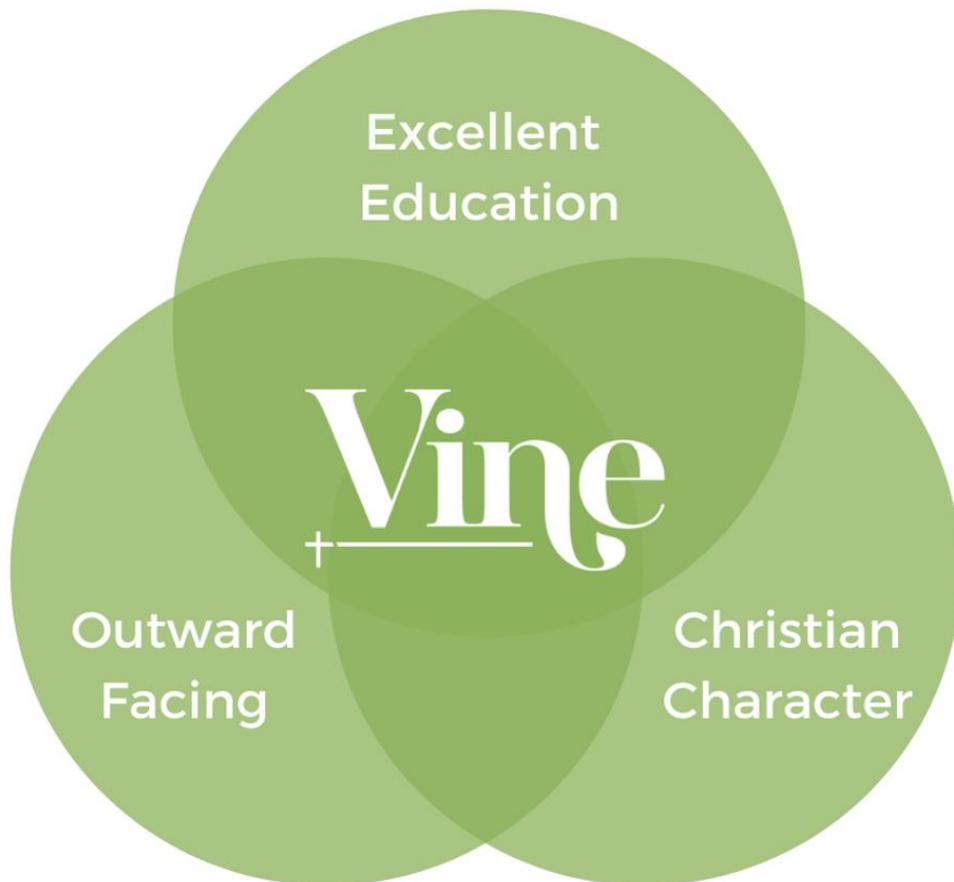
(John 15:5)

This is a model policy for all Vine schools that has been reviewed and adapted for Great Clacton Church of England Junior School

Policy Reference:	
Approved by Vine Schools Trust on:	Summer 22
Adopted by this school on:	Summer 2022
Next review:	Summer 2023

Vision & Values

V Valuing every person
I Inspiring great teaching
N Nurturing academic excellence and Christian Character
E Excelling, unlocking great potential



Contents

1. Aims.....	4
2. Our school’s legal duties under the Equality Act 2010	4
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform	4
4. Expectations for school uniform	5
5. Expectations for our school community	5
6. Monitoring arrangements.....	6
7. Links to other policies	7

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 the Head Teacher, 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.

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 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, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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 interschool 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

This is set out in Annexe 1

4.2 Where to purchase it

This is set out in Annexe 2

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 the Head Teacher 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 are also expected to contact the Head Teacher 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 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 Head Teacher.

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 Local Schools Board

The Local Schools 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 by the Vine Schools Trust Board every two years.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Annexe 1

Our school uniform is Ocean Blue. Items that are marked with a * below, have the school logo on and are sold at www.yourschoolwear.co.uk



School uniform for all pupils

- White button up long or short sleeved shirt
- Tie (clip on)
- Ocean blue school v-neck sweatshirt * or cardigan* (with logo)
- Tailored grey trousers or skirts – we do not permit jeans, skinny fit trousers or jogging bottoms

Please note skirts should be an appropriate length and a style which allows girls to sit comfortably on the floor.

PE

Children need a change of clothes and footwear for P.E (for health and hygiene reasons) and a draw string bag* in which to keep the kit at school. All school uniform and P.E kit MUST be named. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing, please help us by naming everything.

- Plain white T shirt or t-shirt with the school logo on
- Royal blue shorts
- Plimsolls (indoor)
- Trainers (outdoor)
- Plain black or blue tracksuit for outdoor PE

Summer

- Light blue gingham dress

- Grey tailored shorts/culottes

Outdoors

- Outdoor coats should be plain and ideally dark coloured (black/grey/blue) and waterproof.
- Children wishing to play on the field during the winter will need spare trainers and 'over trousers'

Footwear

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black footwear. Sandals and boots/shoes with a heel are not appropriate for school and are not part of our uniform policy.

Jewellery, Hair and Make-up

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears. Children are required to remove any items during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings.

- Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either blue, grey or black. Extreme hairstyles and colours are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair.
- Children may wear watches to school. Analogue watches are recommended, as the design of these supports learning about time better than watches with digital displays. Children may wear 'fitness' watches that measure steps and such like. Children may not wear any watch that has the capacity to do the following:
 - connect to the internet or mobile phone,
 - record audio,
 - record still and/or moving images
 - record audio and still and/or moving images.
- Children are not permitted to wear any watches or jewellery if, in the school's judgement, they detract from good behaviour and/or good learning or if it causes distraction, or causes a concern to the health and safety of the child or other individuals.
- Children are not permitted to wear make-up to school

Annexe 2

Our school jumper/cardigan and Tie must be branded and is available from www.yourschoolwear.co.uk

All other items can be purchased more widely from a number of high-street retailers

We understand that some families may find purchasing uniform expensive. We offer a uniform exchange service for children who have outgrown clothes where you can swap for larger sizes.

We also hold a second-hand uniform sale from our community shop located at the school