


Southdown Primary School



School Uniform and Appearance Policy 2026

Chair of Governors:	Headteacher: 
Ratified on: 03.03.26	Review by: Autumn Term 2028

SOUTHDOWN PRIMARY SCHOOL

School Uniform and Appearance Policy

Introduction

The wearing of school uniform is positively encouraged, since we believe it provides the children with a sense of identity, a feeling of pride and belonging. It has many advantages. It can help solve the daily problem of "What shall I wear today?" and in the long run it can prove cheaper for parents to dress their children in school uniform.

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus and in this policy.

The official school colour is red.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform/dress code:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the 'Southdown Family'.
- creates the correct attitude – look smart, work smart.
- is practical and smart;
- enables pupils to be easily recognisable when out on school visits etc
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- stops the need for parents to make daily choices or compete with the fashion market;
- ensures that all pupils look the same regardless of economic well-being
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.
- provides durable clothing very often cheaper than other brands.

We are sure you can think of many more reasons why wearing a uniform is of benefit to yourself. Unfortunately, where uniform is not worn, children can become the victim of teasing by others, poor attitude to work, ultimately resulting in low self-esteem. This is the last thing we want for our children.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

The role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

School Uniform

The children are expected to wear full uniform every day unless it is PE or parents are informed otherwise. All children should come to school in their PE kit on their specific day. All children should wear school shoes and not trainers; school shoes in the main are cheaper. Items marked * can be purchased with an embroidered logo from a 3rd party supplier. As of April 2026, this is Monkhouse

<https://www.monkhouse.com/>

- Grey/black skirt, pinafore or trousers (skirts must be of a sensible length).
- White blouse, shirt or polo shirt*
- Red sweatshirt* or cardigan* with the school logo
- A red gingham dress with a red sweatshirt/cardigan (Summer Term only)
- Grey/Black shorts –not sportswear (Summer Term only)
- Shoes – flat black sensible shoes not trainers - boots may be worn to and from school in bad weather)
- Summer shoes if worn should be black/red sandals that fasten and have an enclosed toe.
- White socks or black/grey/red tights.
- Coat

PE Kit

- Black Shorts
- Plain red t-shirt with the school logo*
- Trainers for outside games
- Plain Black tracksuit
- School Hoodie with the school logo* -this item optional and is for PE sessions only.

Swimming

- Swimming costume (not bikini)
- Trunks/Swimming shorts –please ensure that they have a drawstring to save any embarrassment.
- Towel

In the summertime we encourage sun hats to be worn at all times when the children are outside. Please apply sun cream before your child comes to school (see Sun Protection Policy)

All items of clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name. As items are washed regularly, please rewrite names each time.

Use of Goggles

The school is following the guidelines of the LA, the Association for P.E. and the Amateur Swimming Association which advises that goggles need only be “allowed exceptionally in school swimming lessons” by pupils who are adversely affected by chemicals in the water. Such requests may be supported by medical advice or by reasoned arguments presented by parents in writing to the Headteacher.

Where goggles are being worn those children will be taught how to remove goggles by “slipping them off the head not by stretching the retaining band.”

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears. We ask the children do not wear earring studs during PE and games, to prevent them from causing injury.

Hair and Appearance expectations

- Pupils with long hair should have it tied back for health and safety reasons and to help reduce the spread of head lice.
- Long hair must be tied back for PE lessons and Outdoor learning sessions.
- Hair coverings worn for religious or cultural reasons are welcomed and should be plain and safe for school activities
- Make-up is not permitted to be worn by any child of any age.
- Acrylic nails, gels, extensions or any false nails are not permitted to be worn.
- We discourage coloured hair and extreme hairstyles.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. Shoes are also more supportive of foot growth as children's feet do not form fully until the age of 14. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list.

Reasonable Adjustments and Inclusion

Southdown recognises its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Welsh Government guidance. Reasonable adjustments will be made for:

- religious or cultural dress requirements
- medical needs
- sensory needs
- gender identity

Requests should be made to the Headteacher, who will consider them sensitively and fairly.

Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Impact Statement

Southdown Primary School is committed to the protection and promotion of positive mental health and emotional wellbeing of our whole school community; pupils, staff, parents and carers. We recognise how important mental health and emotional well-being is to our lives in just the same way as physical health. This Policy has been written and reviewed in line with our school's vision and Mental Health and Emotional Wellbeing Policy.

Equality Impact Assessment

Under the Equality Act 2010 we have a duty not to discriminate against people on the basis of their age, disability, gender, gender identity, pregnancy or maternity, race, religion or belief and sexual orientation. This policy has been quality impact assessed and we believe that it is line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at Southdown Primary School.