



Asterdale Primary School

Uniform Policy

Uniform expectations for all learners (incl. jewellery)

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We as a school consider our equality duties under the Equality act 2010. The general duties are to: -

- Eliminate discrimination
- Advance equality of opportunity
- Foster good relations

This policy understands the principle of the Act and the work needed to ensure that those with protected characteristics are not discriminated against and are given equality of opportunity.

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School Uniform – our vision:

At Asterdale Primary School, we believe that school uniform plays an important role in promoting a sense of belonging, community and shared identity. By wearing a common uniform, pupils are able to feel part of the school family, helping to create an inclusive environment where everyone is valued equally. Uniform also helps to reduce unnecessary distractions and encourages pupils to focus on their learning and personal development.

We have high expectations for all members of our school community, and wearing school uniform correctly is one way in which pupils demonstrate pride in themselves and in our school. A smart and consistent appearance supports our culture of respect, responsibility and readiness to learn.

Through our uniform policy, we aim to foster a sense of collective identity while ensuring that expectations remain practical, inclusive and affordable for all families.

Staff and Governors at Asterdale Primary School feel that it is important for all children to wear school uniform every day.

All pupils are expected to follow the school standard dress guidelines:

Grey, black	Trousers, skirts, pinafore, tailored shorts, culottes
White or yellow	Blouse, shirt, or polo shirt with collar
Bottle green only	Cardigan, sweatshirt polo-shirt for OPAL playtimes [optional]
Yellow or green striped/ checked	Dress
Black	Sensible shoes or plain trainers
PE kit	Black pumps, plain black or navy shorts and plain white t-shirt

Footwear

Black sensible shoes or plain black trainers are permitted. Open-toed sandals, high heels and footwear presenting safety concerns should not be worn.

Affordability & best value

Asterdale Primary School recognises that school uniform plays a valuable role in promoting a sense of belonging, identity and pride in the school community. At the same time, we are committed to ensuring that our uniform requirements are affordable and represent the best value for money for families.

When developing and reviewing our uniform policy, the school and governing body will have regard to the Department for Education's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms and will ensure that uniform costs do not become a barrier to attendance, participation or parental choice.

Principles - Asterdale Primary School will:

- Keep compulsory branded items to an absolute minimum.
- Ensure that most uniform items can be purchased from a range of high-street retailers, supermarkets or suppliers.
- Consider the total cost of uniform, including PE kit, when reviewing requirements.
- Ensure that uniform requirements do not place unreasonable financial pressure on families.
- Consider the needs of pupils with protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010 and make reasonable adjustments where required.
- Regularly review uniform requirements to ensure they remain practical, inclusive and affordable

Branded Uniform

Asterdale will comply with national requirements regarding compulsory branded uniform items. Wherever possible, families will be able to purchase generic items from a retailer of their choice. Any branded items required by the school will be carefully considered and limited to those that are necessary to maintain the school's identity and ethos. No branded items are compulsory within our uniform expectations.

Second-Hand and Pre-Loved Uniform

Asterdale actively supports the use of second-hand and pre-loved uniform.

Parents and carers will be able to access good quality second-hand uniform through school-organised events, donations or other arrangements communicated by the school. The use of pre-loved uniform is encouraged as a cost-effective and environmentally sustainable option.

Equality and Inclusion

Asterdale will ensure that uniform expectations are applied fairly and sensitively.

Where appropriate, reasonable adjustments may be agreed with parents and carers to support individual pupils.

The school recognises that some pupils may require adaptations to uniform expectations because of:

- Disability.
- Medical conditions.
- Sensory processing needs.
- Religious beliefs.
- Cultural practices.
- Gender identity considerations.

Requests for adjustments will be considered on a case-by-case basis in accordance with the Equality Act 2010.

Support for Families

Where families experience difficulties in meeting uniform costs, they are encouraged to contact the school confidentially.

Asterdale will seek to provide support through signposting to available assistance, the provision of pre-loved uniform, or other appropriate measures where possible.

Monitoring and Review

The Governing Body will review this policy annually to ensure that school uniform remains affordable, inclusive and compliant with current legislation and Department for Education guidance.

Seasonal clothing and weather

- During the summer months sun-cream and sunhats may be required.
- Coat or raincoats will be required during the winter months. Boots may be worn to and from school. Please ensure that your child has a suitable change of footwear to be worn in school.
- Make up and nail varnish should NOT be worn in school.
- Temporary tattoos should be actively discouraged and removed before school.

- Long hair (below the shoulder) poses a significant health and safety risk and should be tied back.
- Haircuts should also not include sculptured lines or motives.
- Hairstyles should be safe, appropriate for school and should not prevent identification of pupils or participation in learning activities.

OPAL Playtimes

Asterdale is proud to be an OPAL play school – whereby maximizing 20% of the school day during outside times (break times and lunch times) is maximised through providing an enriching offer.

To enable all learners to enjoy playtimes in all weathers, pupils are required to leave a pair of named wellies at school all year. This allows pupils to access a large proportion of the school grounds in all weathers.

Alongside this, waterproof overalls & trousers are recommended for all pupils to bring to school and keep in a suitable bag that can be stored easily.

Participation in outdoor learning and play may result in clothing becoming muddy, wet or worn. Families are therefore encouraged to provide inexpensive, durable items suitable for outdoor use.

Forest Schools

Asterdale pupils enjoy our Forest Schools provision throughout the academic year. To enable this, pupils will require suitable outdoor kit including wellies, waterproof overalls/trousers and layers of suitable old clothing.

Further information for Forest Schools sessions is communicated via Class Dojo in advance of sessions throughout the academic year.

Addressing Uniform Concerns

The school will work sensitively with families where uniform expectations are not met.

Staff will seek to understand any underlying factors, including:

- Financial hardship.
- Medical need.
- Family circumstances.

Pupils will not be excluded from education due to inability to comply with uniform requirements.

Jewellery & Personal Effects

This part of the policy is based on guidelines issued by the Local Authority and is written with health and safety considerations in mind. “Jewellery” refers to rings, watches, bracelets, neck chains, pendants, brooches and earrings.

“Body piercings” refers to pierced ears, noses, eyebrows, navels, etc.

Risk Assessment

Possible injuries could include tearing or piercing of flesh

- Is there a potential for injury to the wearer due to the inadvertent contact of jewellery with other people, clothing, etc. The risk is greater with the sleeper/ring type jewellery and projecting/dangling jewellery.
- Is there a risk to other people? This is generally low except during playtimes, lunchtimes, physical or active activities. Lessons where injury could occur due to contact with jewellery worn by another person.
- Is there a risk from covering jewellery? There is a potential risk of injury to the wearer from removing tape used to cover jewellery if the tape pulls the jewellery as it is removed. Some people have an allergic reaction to plasters or adhesive tape so this would also need to be considered

General

- The wearing of studs in pierced earlobes is permitted, but these will have to be removed for P.E., games and swimming.
- Except for studs in pierced earlobes, studs in any other body piercings are not permitted. If a child comes to school wearing a stud in any body piercing other than the earlobe, the child will be asked to remove it or, if that is not possible, the parent/carer will be contacted to come and remove it.
- If the parent/carer refuses to remove the stud until the wound has healed the child will not be allowed out at playtimes or be allowed to join in physical or active sessions during that time.

P.E and Games Lessons

The wearing of jewellery in P.E and games lessons constitutes a hazard as injuries can be caused to the wearer through the jewellery being accidentally caught or knocked. Similarly contact can cause injuries to a third party.

- The school policy is that all jewellery and studs in pierced ears must be removed for P.E and games lessons. When removal is not possible, studs in pierced ears must be taped over.
- In the event of a child not co-operating with either removal of jewellery or taping over of studs in pierced ears for PE and games lessons, then s/he will not be permitted to take part and the parent/carer will be informed

Swimming

The wearing of jewellery in swimming lessons constitutes a hazard as injuries can be caused to the wearer through the jewellery being accidentally caught or knocked. The taping over of studs in pierced ears for swimming is not an option due to the risk of tape coming off in the water and causing a choking hazard to other swimmers.

- The school policy is that all jewellery and studs in pierced ears must be removed for swimming lessons.
- In the event of it not being possible to remove the jewellery or studs in pierced ears for swimming lessons or the child refusing to remove it, then s/he will not be permitted to take part and the parent/carer will be informed.

Smart watches

Smart watches are not to be worn during the school day as they could be used for communication, photography, recording or internet access whilst on school premises. Pupils may choose to wear a traditional analogue or digital watch without any recording or interactive facility.

Parent/Carer Responsibility

- Parents/carers will be advised of the exact details of the school's policy on the wearing of jewellery through the school prospectus and newsletters. A copy of the policy is also available on the website.
- Parents/carers will be advised not to allow their child to have ears pierced during term time and that the beginning of the six week summer break would be the best time in order to allow sufficient time for the wound(s) to heal.
- Parents/carers will be informed that under normal class circumstances, the wearing of studs in pierced ears will be permitted.
- In the event of a child coming to school wearing excessive jewellery and or studs in any body piercings other than the earlobes, the child will be asked to remove it or, if that is not possible, the parent/carers will be contacted to come to school to remove it.

Staff Responsibility

- Staff will not, under any circumstances, be expected to or allowed to examine children to see if jewellery or body piercings are being worn.
- Staff will not be expected to or allowed to remove any jewellery or studs in pierced ears being worn by a child; this will have to be done by the child him/herself or by a parent/carers.
- Staff will not, under any circumstances, take any responsibility for the safekeeping of children's jewellery.

General

The school will not seek or accept as an alternative to the removal of jewellery and studs in body piercings, a parent's/carer's assurance that s/he will not hold the school liable in the event of an accident/incident.

The parent/carer cannot accept liability to the children during school activities; this is not allowed by UK or European legislation or Civil Law.