# **TBP Uniform Policy**



The Inspire Multi Academy Trust (South West)

**March 2025** 









### **Tor Bridge Primary School**

# **Uniform Policy**

#### 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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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 Kelly Powell, our FSA, using the primary email address: <a href="mailto:tbp@tbp.plymouth.sch.uk">tbp@tbp.plymouth.sch.uk</a> where she can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory <u>guidance</u> 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 make sure our uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides the best value for money for Parents and 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
- 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

- A teal sweatshirt/cardigan with school logo or plain teal sweatshirt/cardigan logo (either Crew or V Neck) All jumpers and cardigans worn to the school must have an embroidered logo on them
- A white polo shirt/blouse with or without a logo
- Pinafores, trousers, shorts and skirts must be black/dark grey
- Summer dresses must be checked teal or green
- Grey or navy tights and/or white, grey or black socks
- Black school shoes (not including boots) need to be worn to the school and in rare circumstances all black trainers (black trainers with obviously coloured soles or logos are not acceptable). Please see Appendix 1 which gives pictorial examples for acceptable shoes.
- For PE, a house colour t-shirt with a logo and plain black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms
- On the days that pupils have PE, they are encouraged to wear their PE kit to school for the entire day

#### **Accessories and Other**

- Jewellery including bracelets and necklaces are not to be worn. Earrings must be studs rather or sleeper hoops, all others must be removed.
- Hair accessories, such as JoJo Siwa bows, elastic headbands and hair clips must be discrete and should kept in line with the schools' colours (Black, Shades of Teal and White). Any hair accessory should be kept to a minimum and should not act as a distraction to pupils.
- Hair extensions and coloured hair that is not a natural colour is not appropriate during term time, nor is patterns shaved into hair.
- Children are not permitted to wear nail varnish or false nails and will be asked to remove this.





# 5. Where to obtain Tor Bridge Primary Uniform

Every Tor Bridge Primary child receives a free book bag with a TBP logo when they join the school.

Additional school sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts and house colour sport polo shirts can be purchased online through <a href="Price & Buckland">Price & Buckland</a>.

Good quality pre-worn school uniform is available for free throughout the year from <u>The Uniform Store Plymouth</u>. The store offers a 'Click & Collect' service during term time where you can order uniform items online and pick them up from our designated collection point.

Good quality pre-worn school uniform is available for free throughout the year from our 'Swap Shop' which takes places regularly throughout the year. Tor Bridge Primary parents are encouraged to donate uniform that their children have grown out of to the school for other parents to make use of.

# 6. Expectations for Our School Community

## **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 (unless specified otherwise), or where they are representing the school (if required)

#### **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 expected to contact the school via the primary email: <a href="mailto:tbp@tbp.plymouth.sch.uk">tbp@tbp.plymouth.sch.uk</a> if they wish to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their child's protected characteristics or the cost of the uniform. 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.

#### 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 necessary. 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.

#### 7. Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Considers 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.

# Appendix 1 – What are Acceptable School Shoes?

Black sensible school shoes are to be worn – no high heels, trainers, or open toe sandals please. Flat black ankle boots can only be worn in the winter months.

In recent times we have become aware of many shoe manufacturers and companies selling types of shoes which we would consider to be a 'trainer' but are marketing them as 'school shoes'.

We appreciate how difficult this can make things for families, so have provided the table below to provide more specific guidance on what our school considers to be a school shoe and the types of shoes that would be deemed as a trainer.

Should you at any point be unsure of a particular shoe, before purchasing them, please do not hesitate to contact the school office who will be able to assist you further.

