

The Bishops' C of $\mathbf{E}$ Learning Academy

## Christian Distinctiveness

At The Bishops' Church of England Learning Academy, our mantra, 'Faith to Belong, Believe, Aspire and Achieve' is based on The Parable of the Mustard Seed:

If you have faith as small as a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you. Matthew 17:20

This underpins our Christian vision statement at The Bishops' :
We belong to Team Bishops' where through our Christian distinctiveness and nurturing ethos we celebrate our differences. We believe that we will achieve through inspirational, exciting and challenging learning that utilises our natural environment. We aspire to create endless possibilities for our pupils and to make a positive contribution to society. We achieve by enabling everyone to flourish academically, spiritually and emotionally.

## Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. Our policy has been developed taking into account the Department for Education's Cost of School Uniforms guidance.

## Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.


## Our School Uniform comprises of:

- White blouse or white shirt and school tie OR white polo shirt with logo and school tie (plain polo shirts are acceptable). School ties are optional in the summer term.
- Grey/purple pinafore dress OR grey/black skirt OR grey/black tailored trousers or shorts
- Purple gingham or striped summer dress
- Purple cardigan or pullover with logo (plain cardigans/pullovers are acceptable)
- White, grey or black socks, purple or black tights


## Footwear

- Black sensible functional shoes - No flashing lights and no trainers please.


## PE

- Purple T-shirt with school logo
- Black or purple shorts (cotton is advisable)


## Uniform supplier

- The items of uniform below are available to buy from Stud Sports, Unit 8A A30 Business Park, Indian Queens, TR9 6FZ. 01637873560 https://macronstoresw.com/schools/
- Non branded items are also available from local supermarkets during various points in the school year.


## Second Hand Uniform

We keep a very small selection of second uniform in the office and the following items can be purchased from the school:

- Purple book bag $£ 4.50$
- Purple Gym/Swimming Bag $£ 3.50$
- Swimming hat $£ 1.60$
- Purple School Tie $£ 3.00$


## Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in school. The exceptions to this rule are studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children either to remove these objects during PE and games, or to cover them with a plaster.

## Alternative Uniform

We place great value on fellowship, family and team work. In support of this, children who are members of community groups such as Cubs, Beavers, Scouts, Rainbows, Brownies or Guides are invited to wear these uniforms to school on the day that they attend that group. Our aim is that the children take a pride in being part of a community group.

## Hair, Make-up and Nail Varnish

We ask that hair is of a natural colour and for long hair to be tied back sensibly, so as not to hinder the child during the school day. We also ask that children do not wear make-up or nail varnish to school.

## Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear the types of shoe described in the uniform list.

## 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. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher.

## Equal Opportunities

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

## The Role of Governors

The Local Advisory Board supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

## Monitoring and Review

When monitoring this policy, the Local Governing Board will:

- seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- consider with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
- require the Headteacher to report to the Governors on the way in which the policy is being implemented.

