



Hillcross Primary School

School Uniform Policy

Mission, Vision and Values

At Hillcross, we nurture our children to think critically and creatively within a collaborative community.

Our outstanding practice ensures our children meet their full potential, both personally and academically, and provides opportunities for them to develop their unique talents and skills. As a nationally recognized Thinking School, we nurture an empathetic community of creative and critical thinkers. We achieve success for all through our dynamic and ambitious curriculum, inclusive learning, promoting fairness and celebrating diversity.

Through our school culture of high aspiration, embracing challenge, acting with compassion, a shared responsibility and by showing respect for all, we aim to develop a resilient school community of compassionate global citizens.

Introduction

At Hillcross, we have an agreed school uniform in order to enhance school pride, unity and community spirit. By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. Wearing a school uniform also reduces the chance of children making judgements about each other based on appearance. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes.

This policy has been written and reviewed in light of the Department for Education non-statutory guidance on school uniforms. (updated November 2021) and the statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms, (published November 2021). This guidance is issued under the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021. This Act requires the appropriate authorities of relevant schools to have regard to this guidance when developing and implementing their school's uniform policy.

We have carefully considered what is practically required for lessons (including PE), health and safety considerations and the comfort of the children.

As a member of Hillcross Primary School, all children are expected to observe this policy.

School Uniform

It is important that our uniform fosters a sense of pride in our school; however, to ensure the cost of our uniform is kept at a reasonable level, we keep the use of branded items to a minimum.






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School Uniform	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Long sleeved cardigan or V-neck sweatshirt with school logo. • White or maroon short sleeved polo shirt (with or without logo) or white shirt/blouse. • Grey tailored pinafore dress, skirt, skort, shorts or trousers. Clothing should be knee length and tight pencil skirts are not appropriate, as they are too restrictive. • White, grey or black socks or tights. • Plain black shoes (not sling-back, open toed or heeled) or trainers (no coloured markings). No boots, canvas pumps or coloured trainers. • Pink/white or red/white checked summer dress (not an all in one or 'hybrid' versions please). • White/black closed toe leather sandals. • Hillcross Logo School Rucksack (Small rucksacks or book bags are available for children in EYFS & KS1). One small discrete key ring may be attached to help your child identify their bag. • Yr 1 - 6 School water bottle with house team coloured lid (purchase at weekly sale). Alternatively, parents can source their own transparent water bottle in their child's house colour (see picture for colour guide). • Nursery and Reception (from Sept 2024): transparent water bottle with maroon or white lid. • Sunhat - Hillcross logo hat recommended (no visors as these do not provide full protection). <p>Optional Items</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reversible Fleece-Lined Jacket. • Fully Zipped Fleece. <p>Children should not wear non-school uniform hoodies/sweat jackets instead of coats. The above items can be purchased if children do not want to wear a coat and their school sweatshirt is not warm enough.</p>	
Recommended EYFS Uniform	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black jogging bottoms or thick black leggings (no logos). • White or maroon short sleeved polo shirt (with or without logo). • White, grey or black socks. • Black trainers (no additional coloured marking) with Velcro fastening (no plimsolls). • Long sleeved cardigan or V-neck sweatshirt with school logo. • Hillcross Logo Bookbag (EYFS & KS1) or small Hillcross School Rucksack. 	



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PE Kit	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE sweatshirt with school logo. ● (From Sep 2024) Year 1-Year 6: a plain t-shirt in your child's house colour; nursery and reception children will wear a plain white t-shirt. ● Plain black jogging bottoms or thick black leggings (no logos). ● Plain black shorts or thick black cycling shorts (no logos). ● Black indoor plimsolls or trainers for indoor sports (These must not have been worn outside, as they are required to protect the gym floor). ● Black outside trainers for outdoor sports (In the sports arena or field). ● School logo drawstring PE bag to store kit. <p>*Please note earrings must be removed or covered with plasters (please provide plasters).</p>	  

The PE kit listed is considered to be part of our school uniform and children should wear this to school on their confirmed PE day/s. Trainers for PE should be black, but please remember how often these get lost and that they will be worn in muddy conditions, so do not send your child to school with expensive trainers.

Indoor Shoes for PE Lessons in the Gym

We ask families to purchase indoor trainers/plimsolls for use in the school gym so that if the weather does not allow for PE lessons to take place outside, the lessons can be held inside. For health and safety reasons, we cannot allow children to take part in games such as football, basketball or tag rugby in bare feet. Whilst we appreciate that there may be periods of time that Teams are lucky with the weather and all their PE lessons take place outside, we cannot predict whether or not this will be the case. If it rains and a lesson has to take place inside, if children do not have indoor footwear, they cannot take part in the lesson. You will be aware that lessons are sequential and skills are developed and built upon each week, which puts those children who miss lessons at a disadvantage.

All items of school uniform - this includes shoes, lunch boxes and school water bottles – should be labelled. Parents are asked to regularly check the uniform their child brings home - it is very easy for items of uniform to get mixed up. If this has happened parents are asked to bring back anything they find that is not their child's and the school will reunite it with its owner.

Other Items/Requirements

- All children in EYFS and KS1 should have a Hillcross School Book Bag* or small Hillcross School Rucksack*
- All children in KS2 should have a large Hillcross School Rucksack*

The school book bags and rucksacks are also part of our school uniform. They are designed to hold the necessary books, folders and equipment the children will need without any damage to them and their use minimises upset should they get lost or damaged.

- All children should have a school water bottle with a coloured lid corresponding to their house colour.*
- A warm coat should be worn to school on cold/cool days.



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- Waterproof coats and wellies (with school shoes to change into) should be worn on wet days.
- Sun hats or caps should be brought to school to be worn during outside play on sunny days.*
- If your child wears cycling shorts, or similar, under a school skirt or dress, these must be black or grey.

*These items can be ordered through the online school uniform shop at Mapac:
<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/hillcrossprimarySM4>

Accessories

- Children may wear a small discrete wristwatch – watches with additional functions and multi-media capability, such as Fitbits, are not permitted.
- **To ensure the children's safety we recommend that they do not wear earrings to school at all.** However, if it is necessary for them to do so, only one small plain gold or silver round stud (no larger than 4mm) in each ear is allowed.
- Please do not send your child to school wearing hoops or dangly earrings or those that have corners or edges such as diamond earrings as these are much more likely to catch and cause very painful accidents. (These must be removed and stored by the child for all PE sessions. Alternatively they can be covered with a plaster that has been supplied by the parent). Staff cannot accept responsibility for lost jewellery.
- Long hair (that touches the shoulder or is longer) should be tied back with a plain, discrete hair tie in school colours (black, grey or burgundy).
- Hair styles should be smart, tidy and appropriate.
- Sunglasses and umbrellas are not permitted.
- Makeup, including nail varnish, should not be worn.

Pre-loved (Second-hand) School Uniform

Second-hand uniforms can benefit all families, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable. Hillcross is a collaborative community and families are encouraged to donate school uniform items that are in good condition when their child/ren grow out of them. These should be taken to the school office.

To support families in challenging circumstances preloved school uniforms can be provided free of charge, please email info@hillcross.merton.sch.uk or speak to a member of staff.

Preloved school uniforms can also be bought by any families at one of our weekly preloved uniform sales. We ask for a minimum donation of £1 for all items —all money raised through this avenue goes towards enhancing the children's curriculum experiences.

Uniform Supplier arrangements

We ensure our uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money (including the quality and durability of the garment). We avoid single supplier contracts but where we do have only one provider we engage in regular tendering competitions where more than one





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supplier can compete for the contract and where the best value for money is secured. All contracts will be retendered at least every 5 years.

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. We are committed to treating all members of the school community fairly and challenging negative attitudes about disability and accessibility and to developing a culture of awareness, tolerance and inclusion. This policy has been equality impact assessed and we believe that it is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any member of the school community and it helps to promote equality and accessibility at our school. The curriculum is planned to be inclusive and meet the needs and interests of a full range of learners. Activities and resources will be differentiated and adult support used to ensure that children access the curriculum and make the best possible progress.

Environmental and Sustainability Assessment

As part of our commitment to environmental sustainability, we have considered the environmental impact of our school uniform policy, by ensuring there are systems in place to enable families to purchase second-hand school uniforms and how items are sourced by our providers.

Safeguarding Commitment

The school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, in line with the most recent version of Keeping Children Safe in Education, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. We take seriously our duty of care to our pupils and staff which includes safeguarding them from the risk of being drawn into terrorism - this includes not just violent extremism but also non-violent extremism, which can create an atmosphere conducive to terrorism and can popularise views which terrorists exploit. We work closely with social care, the police, health services and other services to promote the welfare of children and protect them from harm. Radicalisation is recognised as a specific safeguarding issue and is addressed in line with the Government Prevent Strategy and The Counter-Terrorism and Security Act 2015.

Privacy Policy

Hillcross School is committed to ensuring protection of all personal information that we hold. We recognise our obligations under the GDPR and Data Protection act 2018. Our practice is documented in our Data Protection Policy.

Monitoring and Evaluation

Written: September 2016

Reviewed: March 2020, June 2022, November 2023

Date of next review: June 2026