



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.

From September 2024 we will not be allocating a house team to children in nursery or reception because this can cause unnecessary upset if we have to change the children's house teams when they are allocated to their classes when they transition to Year 1 - this sometimes happens to ensure there is a balance across each class. This means the uniform policy for these year groups has changed slightly (see blue is new below).



Hillcross Primary School

School Uniform

- Maroon 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.
- (Plain) white, grey or black socks or tights (no leggings to be worn under uniform).
- If your child wears cycling shorts, or similar, under a school skirt or dress, these must be white, black or grey and must not be seen below the hem.
- **Plain black shoes** (not sling-back, open toed or heeled) **or trainers** (no coloured markings) with Velcro fastening until children can manage their own shoelaces/buckle. No boots, plimsolls, canvas pumps or coloured trainers.

Warm Weather Options

- Pink/white or red/white checked summer dress (**not all in one or 'hybrid' versions**).
- Black closed toe leather sandals (in summer).

Other compulsory Uniform Items

- 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.
- Transparent Water Bottle:
 - From September 2024, Nursery and Reception will have a maroon or white lid. Alternatively, parents can source their own transparent water bottle with a black, white, grey or maroon lid/tint. *(If as an existing parent you have purchased a different coloured lid already you do not need to purchase a new one unless you want to.)*
 - Year 1 to Year 6 children will have a house team coloured lid. Alternatively, parents can source their own transparent water bottle in their child's house colour (see picture for colour guide).
- Sunhat - Hillcross logo hat recommended (no visors as these do not provide full protection).

Optional Items

- Reversible Fleece-Lined Jacket.
- Fully Zipped Fleece.

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.





Hillcross Primary School

Recommended EYFS Uniform	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain black jogging bottoms, thick black leggings or thick black cycling shorts no shorter than mid-thigh (no logos). • White or maroon short sleeved polo shirt (with or without logo). • White, grey or black socks. • Plain black trainers (no additional coloured marking) with Velcro fastening (no plimsolls). • Maroon long sleeved cardigan or V-neck sweatshirt with school logo. 	
Reception PE Kit	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PE sweatshirt with school logo. • White t-shirt with round collar. • 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 to protect the gym floor). Not required until after Christmas • 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>	
PE Kit (Year 1 to Year 6)	
<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</p>	
<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, Skort or thick black cycling shorts no shorter than mid-thigh (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>	

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



Hillcross Primary School

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.

Other Items/Requirements

- A warm coat should be worn to school on cold/cool days.
- Waterproof coats and wellies (with school shoes to change into) should be worn on wet days.
- Children may wear a small, discrete analogue wristwatch – watches with additional functions and multimedia 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. Children should not wear earrings on a PE day, or a day they attend an extra-curricular sports club. Where earrings are worn, they will be removed and stored by the child for all PE sessions. Alternatively, parents can cover their child's earrings with a plaster. Staff cannot accept responsibility for lost jewellery.
 - 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.
- 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). Beads used in braided hair should also be small, discrete and in school colours.
- We would not expect children to have their hair dyed and ensure that their hair style is smart, tidy and appropriate/natural e.g. avoid tramlines, etchings and patterns.
- Sunglasses and umbrellas are not permitted - parents/carers will need to bring them to school and take them home again if they wish children to use them on the journey to and from school.
- Makeup, including nail varnish, should not be worn.



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 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.

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

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.



Hillcross Primary School

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.

Label everything!!

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.

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, May 2024.

Date of next review: June 2026