



storyybrook

Uniform Policy





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1. Aims

At Storyybrook, our approach to uniform and appearance is designed to support our core values of belonging, respect, resilience, inclusion, integrity and love.

As a specialist SEMH primary school, we recognise that clothing can be closely linked to:

- sensory needs
- emotional regulation
- identity and self-expression
- family circumstances

Our aim is not to enforce a rigid uniform, but to provide clear, consistent and flexible guidance that:

- promotes a sense of belonging
- supports pupils to feel safe and comfortable
- reduces anxiety and barriers to attendance
- ensures equality and fairness for all pupils

Clear expectations are maintained in line with the school's Behaviour Policy, while applying flexibility to meet individual needs.

2. Our Approach

Storyybrook adopts a flexible, trauma-informed approach to uniform and appearance.

We recognise that:

- behaviour is communication
- pupils may present with unmet needs or sensory sensitivities
- rigid expectations can create barriers to engagement

Therefore, expectations around dress are applied with:

- understanding and compassion
- professional judgement
- a focus on individual need

3. Expectations for Pupils

We ask that pupils attend school in clothing that is:

- comfortable and appropriate for learning and activity
- safe and practical (e.g. suitable footwear for movement and play)
- respectful and non-offensive (no inappropriate language or imagery)
- suitable for a school environment





Storybrook Dress Code

- Black or dark-coloured trousers/ skirts
- Tracksuits, leggings, joggers, trousers, skirts
- Storybrook branded t-shirt and/or jumper - this will be provided by the school

4. Adaptations and Individual Needs

We will always make reasonable adjustments to support individual pupils, including:

- sensory-friendly clothing
- adaptations linked to SEND or SEMH needs
- cultural or religious dress
- temporary adjustments during periods of dysregulation or transition

Decisions will be made in partnership with:

- parents/carers
- the pupil (where appropriate)
- relevant professionals

5. Equality and Inclusion

This policy supports our duties under the Equality Act 2010.

We will ensure that:

- expectations are applied fairly and consistently
- no pupil is disadvantaged due to financial circumstances
- cultural and religious needs are respected
- adjustments are made for pupils with disabilities or additional needs

6. Supporting Families

We recognise that uniform expectations can create financial pressure.

Storybrook will:

- keep expectations low-cost and flexible
- avoid requiring expensive or branded items
- support families where needed (e.g. spare clothing, donations)

7. Staff Responsibilities

Staff will:

- model appropriate and professional dress
- apply expectations consistently and sensitively
- avoid punitive responses to uniform issues





- support pupils to meet expectations through relational approaches

Where concerns arise, staff will:

- explore underlying reasons (e.g. sensory, emotional, financial)
- work with families to find supportive solutions
- use uniform as an opportunity for guidance, not sanction

8. Responding to Concerns

Uniform concerns will be addressed in a way that reflects our school ethos:

- conversations will be calm, respectful and non-judgemental
- the focus will be on problem-solving, not punishment
- sanctions will not be used unless linked to wider safeguarding or safety concerns

9. Health and Safety

For safety reasons:

- appropriate footwear must be worn for physical activity
- jewellery should be minimal and safe
- clothing must not present a risk to the pupil or others

10. Monitoring and Review

The implementation of this policy will be monitored as part of the school's wider approach to:

- behaviour and relationships
- equality and inclusion
- pupil wellbeing

This policy will be reviewed every two years, or sooner if required.

11. Links with Other Policies

This policy should be read in conjunction with:

- Behaviour and Relationships Policy
- Equality and Accessibility Policy
- Safeguarding Policy
- SEND Policy





12. Final Statement

At Storyybrook, we believe that feeling safe, comfortable and accepted is the foundation for learning. Our approach to uniform reflects our commitment to removing barriers, promoting inclusion, and supporting every child to thrive.

