

The Coppice Newsletter



HAPPY, CONFIDENT AND SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS; WELL PREPARED FOR LIFE.

From September I want to start the academic year with all parents and carers clearly understanding that their children must adhere to the school's uniform and PE/Forest School kit expectations. These are outlined in detail in the tables below and we have included visuals to help explain further.

I am aware that this coming holiday often marks the start of parents and carers starting to purchase uniform for September as there are many 'early-bird' offers starting to be advertised in shops. Therefore, I felt that it was vitally important to get this information to you now so that both you and your children can be properly prepared to meet the expectations.

The reasons that I wish for all of our children to have the same, high standard in both school uniform and PE kit is that it gives our children a clear identity. It shows that they all belong to The Coppice Primary School. I want children to feel that they belong to their school and to be proud of it.

One of the mantras that we will share with the children in September is 'Smart in body, smart in mind'. By this we mean that children learn best when they are in a mindset for work. Through being smartly presented, the children understand the high expectations that our school has for them and that we are striving to be the best that we can be in every sense of the word. For this to be the case, every detail is important and uniform is one of those details. I personally feel much more able to do my job to the best of my ability when I am wearing a suit, shirt and tie.

What is also really important to me though is that the uniform and PE/Forest School kit expectations outlined are both achievable and affordable for all parents and carers. Therefore, we have made decisions that we believe enable this to be the case. We do not want to exclude anyone or pose challenges financially for any of our parents or carers with our expectations. For example, we do not expect an embroidered logo on anything **apart from** their school sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan. Everything else can be plain.

Later on in this newsletter we provide details of places where parents and carers can buy the required uniform at affordable prices. In addition, for children with sensory issues, we also provide details of where sensory alternatives can be purchased so that all children can conform to the expectations, just as they will be expected to do at secondary school and in the world of work beyond that. These specialists use specific sensory-need fabrics, which, through research, have a proven track record.

In addition, to avoid confusion, I have also outlined clear expectations with regards to jewellery, hairstyles, nail polish and make-up in school.

Mr Hutt

Deputy Head

Nursery Uniform Expectations (September 2023 onwards):

| Standard Uniform Nursery | Optional Summer term and Autumn first half-term |
|--|---|
| -Dark grey tailored trousers or dark grey joggers – no leggings | |
| -Dark grey skirt or pinafore | -Blue and white summer gingham dress |
| -White polo shirt with or without school logo | |
| -Yellow round-neck sweatshirt with Coppice Nursery logo | |
| -Black or dark grey socks or tights | -White socks may be worn with a summer dress only |
| -Plain black polishable (including patent) footwear <i>*see pictures below for appropriate styles</i> | |

Reception and Key Stage 1 (Yr 1 & Yr2) School Uniform List (September 2023 onwards):

| Standard Uniform Reception & KS1: | Optional Summer term and Autumn first half-term: |
|--|---|
| -Dark grey tailored trousers – no leggings | -Dark grey, tailored shorts |
| -Dark grey skirt or pinafore | -Blue and white summer gingham dress |
| -White polo shirt with or without school logo | |
| -Navy blue round-neck or v-neck sweatshirt with Coppice logo or navy blue cardigan with Coppice logo. | |
| -Black or dark grey socks or tights | -White socks may be worn with a summer dress only |
| -Plain black polishable (including patent) footwear <i>*see pictures below for appropriate styles</i> | |

Key Stage 2 (Yr 3, Yr4, Yr5 & Yr6) School Uniform List (September 2023 onwards):

| Standard Uniform KS2: | Optional Summer term and Autumn first half-term: |
|--|---|
| -Dark grey tailored trousers – no leggings | -Dark grey, tailored shorts |
| -Dark grey skirt or pinafore | -Blue and white summer gingham dress |
| -White shirt (long or short sleeved) with standard collar | -White polo shirt with or without logo |
| -School tie (navy with gold stripe) available as 'tie-it-yourself' or elasticated styles for £7.50 from our uniform suppliers or the School Office | |
| -Navy blue v-neck sweatshirt or knitted jumper with Coppice logo or navy blue cardigan with Coppice logo. | |
| -Black or dark grey socks or tights | -White socks may be worn with a summer dress only |
| -Plain black polishable (including patent) footwear <i>*see pictures below for appropriate styles</i> | |

Physical Education (PE) kit for Reception, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2:

(Forest School kit for all Reception and Key Stage 1 pupils will be the same as the PE kit)

| Outdoor kit: | Indoor kit: |
|---|---|
| -Navy blue, plain jogging bottoms (no leggings). These must be made of sweatshirt material for warmth (strictly no logos) -Navy blue, plain shorts (strictly no logos) or navy blue cycling shorts can be worn outside in the summer. | -Navy blue, plain shorts or navy blue cycling shorts (strictly no logos) |
| -Navy blue, plain hoodie (sweatshirt material) or navy blue, plain zipper (sweatshirt material) – strictly no logos . *School jumpers with logos must not be worn for PE | |
| -Plain, white, round neck t-shirt (strictly no logos) | -Plain, white, round neck t-shirt (strictly no logos) |
| -Black or white sports trainers (discrete logos and discrete additional colours will be allowed). | |
| -Plain white or black socks (strictly no logos) | |

Jewellery:

- In the interest of personal safety and security, jewellery should not be worn in school.
- If your child's ears are pierced, plain gold or silver studs may be worn but must be removed or taped using surgical tape for P.E. lessons. **Children will not be permitted to wear other styles of earring.**
- For safety and consistency reasons, children wearing other jewellery will be asked to remove it.

Nail Polish/make-up:

-Nail polish and make-up will not be permitted to be worn by any child. If it is, the child will be asked to remove it.

Hair styles:

-Hair styles should be sensible. We do not permit extremes, e.g. patterns shaved into hair or coloured hair as these are not appropriate for primary aged children and can often have an effect upon attitudes and behaviour.

-For health and safety reasons, we ask that all children with long hair have it tied up. Plain braids, plaits and pony tails are permitted.

-Hair accessories e.g. clips, hair bands, bobbles, scrunchie etc should be plain black, brown or blue and without embellishment e.g. sequins. Again, for consistency reasons, children wearing inappropriate hair accessories will be asked to remove them. For example, large hair bows are not permitted.

-All children with long hair will be expected to wear their hair off their faces using either a plain black, brown or blue bobble, hair band or scrunchie. Blue gingham scrunchies can be worn with gingham dresses.



Reception and Key Stage 1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2) standard and summer uniform



Key Stage 2 (Year 3, Year 4 Year 5 and Year 6) standard and summer uniform



Early Years Uniform shop on Stratford Road, Shirley (now called Monkhouse) has sent us a link for all parents. They are trying to encourage you to buy your uniform early, ready for September and are offering incentives to get you to do this.

https://www.monkhouse.com/School-Update#top?utm_medium=email&utm_source=Find%20out%20more&utm_campaign=Parent%20Guide%20Comms%20to%20Schools

Clive Mark uniform shop in Poplar Road, King's Heath are offering the following incentive to all **NEW** admissions.

Please note that the only piece of uniform which has to be bought from these suppliers are the sweatshirts, jumpers and cardigans with logos. Don't forget that the supermarkets, Matalan etc offer cheaper alternatives for non logo items.

PE kit

SCHOOL SHOES

Please see below some examples of acceptable shoe styles.



School shoes do not need to be expensive. Have you tried Matalan, Primark (limited range), Sports Direct, H&M, most supermarkets etc?

SENSORY NEEDS CLOTHING

Several companies are now recognising that some children with sensory processing issues find wearing uniform quite uncomfortable. The two main companies are;

The Sensory Smart Store (<https://www.sensorysmart.co.uk/>) and

Spectra Sensory (<https://www.spectrasensoryclothing.co.uk/>)

Both of these companies have a clothing range designed with children with sensory needs in mind but they are quite pricey. For a few children though this highly specialist clothing will be necessary.

Asda are the first High Street store to launch a new, affordable range of school uniform. Their products feature easy close fastenings, soft threads, non-bulky seams, elasticated waistbands and care instructions printed on the fabric in order to get rid of those pesky labels which often cause irritation.

The range is called the Easy – On range and is available online.

<https://direct.asda.com/george/school/easy-on-easy-wear/D10M5G1C15,default,sc.html>

Marks & Spencer have an similar ranges called 'Skin Kind' and 'Adaptive' clothing

<https://www.marksandspencer.com/ie/MSFindItemsByKeyword?searchTerm=adaptive+school+uniform&intid=normal&langId=-24&storeId=10451&catalogId=11551&categoryId=0>

<https://www.marksandspencer.com/ie/MSFindItemsByKeyword?searchTerm=skin+kind+school+uniform&intid=normal&langId=-24&storeId=10451&catalogId=11551&categoryId=0>

Compression clothing can also be purchased from companies such as 'Under Armour'. For some children with sensory needs, a compression top worn underneath the compulsory school polo shirt can be a great support.

Elasticated ties are often preferred and these are available from our uniform suppliers and from the school office.

We hope these links are useful to allow children to wear uniform which looks just like the clothing their friends are wearing but without any of the difficulties they face when wearing regular uniform.

I know that I can count on your support with the expectations outlined above and the reasons for them. However, I do need to point out that these expectations are non-negotiable and are the required standard for ALL pupils from September. Please ensure that your child is properly prepared to meet them – thank you everyone. **Please also ensure that all items of clothing are clearly named!**

That just leaves me to say that I hope that you all have a lovely half-term break with your children. From looking at the forecast for the week, it looks thankfully like the sun is going to shine which will mean plenty of time outside. After so many wet days, I can't say enough how welcome this will be!

Take care everyone and I greatly look forward to seeing you all on Monday 7th June.

Kind regards,

Mr. Hutt

(Deputy Head – The Coppice Primary School)

NURSERY AND RECEPTION WATERPROOFS

Nursery and Reception children will become 'Forest Rangers' in our Forest School area and will require waterproofs to participate weekly. The waterproofs should be navy and it is advisable to buy a larger size than normal in order to accommodate bulky, warm clothes underneath in the winter months. Having a larger size will also mean they can be worn the following year too.

Children will go to Forest Rangers in every kind of weather so please ensure that the waterproofs are durable and of a suitable quality to withstand the elements and the range of outdoor activities that the children will be doing.



Either separates or all in ones are fine and can be purchased from Amazon, Sports Direct, Regatta stockists or specialists such as Muddy Puddles. However there are plenty of alternatives and the choice of where you purchase them is up to you.

Waterproofs will be kept at school and should be clearly named (if you need them for a weekend away then just ask the teacher in advance).

Wellies are also a requirement and should again be clearly named. Wellies can be any colour.

