Bridgewater Primary

Together rain or shine

Bridgewater Primary School
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School Uniform at Bridgewater

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of one school year and the beginning of a new one, we would like to remind you of our school uniform policies. Our approach to uniform is that it should be of reasonable cost and offer the best value for money for parents and carers. For this reason, we keep the number of compulsory Bridgewater branded items to a minimum (a branded sweatshirt/cardigan and a branded book bag). Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school;
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- identifies the children with the school;
- supports our commitment to inclusion;
- is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind.

We encourage families to purchase uniform sustainably and, whenever possible, buy pre-loved uniform, rather than buying new. Contact admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk to order. This is a much better option for the environment and the funds raised by the sale of second-hand uniform through the BSA are spent to directly benefit the children at the school.

New uniform can be purchased from two suppliers – Mapac or PL Schoolwear. Follow the link to our website for details of how to buy.

Bridgewater School Uniform consists of:

- a white short sleeved polo shirt (logo optional);
- a turquoise blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with the school logo);
- black, navy or grey flannel trousers or black, navy or grey tailored shorts, or a navy skirt/skort (knee-length) or a navy pinafore dress;

- a summer dress / playsuit - navy/white check (optional)
- socks should be dark coloured (plain grey, navy or black) or navy tights can be worn. White socks can be worn in summer with dresses/skirts;
- black shoes (not trainers) must be low-heeled with solid backs or black boots (no higher than the ankle). Shoes must be substantial and not low cut, as they will need to offer protection to the feet. Please follow this link for examples of suitable shoe/boot styles. It is important that younger children can put their shoes on and take them off independently. Please ensure that shoes and trainers have velcro fastenings to support this. Trainers should only be worn on PE days. When children are in school uniform, please do not send your child to school in trainers. Trainers can be brought into school in the child's school bag, if they wish to wear them for break and lunchtime.
- a suitable weather-proof coat or jacket*
- a pair of wellington boots for outdoor wear [up to and including Year 4].

*Coats and jackets with prominent logos or made from materials such as leather or denim are not suitable for school. They should be waterproof as well as warm (in winter).

In summer, we ask all children to bring a hat into school to protect them from the sun when they are outdoors; similarly, in winter, when the weather is particularly cold, we would expect children to be wearing trousers, rather than shorts, and/or skirts/pinafores with tights, rather than with socks and to have gloves and a hat in school.

On their PE days, the children can wear the PE kit to school. Reception has PE once per week, Year 1-6 twice per week (NB Year 1 start the year doing 1 day of PE in the Autumn term, increasing to 2 days in the Spring term).

PE Uniform consists of:

- a plain sky-blue polo shirt or sky-blue t-shirt with school logo;
- a navy sweatshirt (with school logo optional); as an alternative, children could wear a "Team Bridgewater" hoodie, but this is optional;
- navy shorts or skort (with school logo optional). Please ensure that the shorts are of an appropriate length - see example of length by following this link
- navy jogging / tracksuit bottoms or leggings (not skins);
- trainers, which should be suitable for running and doing PE;
- white ankle socks;
- a drawstring PE bag (when needed to bring PE into school to change into);
- football boots may be required in Key Stage 1 and 2 (for extra-curricular clubs only).

Please note that branded sports kit with logos (apart from the Bridgewater logo) is not permitted.

Forest School

For Nursery - Year 4, Forest School kit should remain in school during term time. Year 5 and 6 only need it in school on their designated Forest School days. The children will need:

- Wellies or snow boots

- Waterproof trousers and coat
- Gloves and hat

When the weather becomes very cold, there is additional guidance about what is most suitable to wear for Forest School - please follow this link for details.

In very hot weather we suggest that children bring in light long trousers to wear at forest school, to protect themselves from the risk of picking up a tick in the woods.

School Bags
A range of navy blue school bags with the school logo are available.

In Nursery and Reception the children use a small book bag, which is provided free of charge when the children start with us.

In Years 1 and 2, the children use a larger book bag (which has a shoulder strap) or infant rucksack (NB the infant rucksack is only available from Mapac). Please note we do not have the space for rucksacks in Year 1 & 2, if your child's book bag has come to the end of its life please contact admin@bridgewater.herts.sch.uk as we do have spares available.

In Years 3-6, the children **must** use a Bridgewater rucksack.

Hair & Jewellery
Hair must be appropriate for a school environment, should not be dyed and must not be extreme in style or length. It should not be cut shorter than a number 2 and must not be shaved-patterned. Hair which is longer than shoulder length needs to be tied up with plain hair ties; hair bands should be plain and simple and not have ears or other adornments. Please see attached for some examples.



The only jewellery that is permitted at school is a wrist-watch, or small stud earrings. Smart watches that have a camera and connect to the internet are not permitted. Earrings must be covered, or removed for PE. Nail varnish and temporary tattoos are not permitted.

Sunglasses
We do not encourage the wearing of sunglasses at school and would instead encourage the wearing of a sunhat. However, we do recognise that some parents would prefer their child to wear sunglasses.

If you want your child to wear sunglasses, they must be named, have wraparound lenses or wide arms with the CE Mark and British Standard Mark 12312-1:2013 E.

Novelty or branded sunglasses are not suitable for use in school and it will be important that the children do not see these as being a fashion accessory and take them off and on during breaks etc.

Water Bottles

Children in Years 1-6 should have a named water bottle. Reception start to bring in water bottles from home from the summer term; before that they use the cups and jugs available at the snack table.

We do not allow the use of 'Air up' or other water scenting bottles at school. When we trialled allowing them, issues arose, including the unhygienic swapping of scent pods, which led to disagreements. We are aware of how costly these bottles are, which also caused problems amongst the children.

Extreme weather conditions

During extremely hot weather, we relax our uniform requirements, to ensure the children's comfort and wellbeing. We will email parents and carers to let them know about the changes. This usually involves having the option to wear PE kit rather than regular uniform.

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