Richard Coates
CE Primary School



Uniform Policy 2026-2027

Richard Coates CE Primary School

Policy implemented: September 2026
Review date: September 2027

Richard Coates CE Primary School

Policy Ethos

Our policy has been created with cost, health and safety and practicality at its heart.

It has been designed to ensure children wear clothing conducive to a learning environment. We strongly believe that uniform can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

Cost considerations

We have a large stock of clean, preloved uniforms in good condition. Please email admin@richard-coates.uk to request items and sizes.

Donations of uniforms can be made via the basket at the main office.

Uniform Specifications

To comply with Department for Education guidance, this policy limits compulsory branded items (items with a school badge that must be bought from our designated supplier) to a maximum of two items for daily wear and one item for PE. All other items can be standard, generic garments purchased widely from any high-street retailer or supermarket.

Uniforms are as follows (items marked with * are optional):

Daily School Uniform

Item	Details
School sweatshirt with school badge or school cardigan with school badge	Compulsory branded item, available from Tots to Teams
White polo shirt	Generic plain white polo shirts are fully permitted. Versions with the school badge and trim are optional and available from Tots to Teams
Grey tailored trousers or tailored shorts	Generic, widely available
Grey skirt or pinafore	Generic, widely available

Item	Details
*Summer dress	Generic plain red/white or blue/white checked summer dresses are permitted, widely available
Plain black shoes with black soles	Outdoor
Plain black plimsolls or similar	Indoor
Black, grey or white socks	Generic, widely available
Plain grey or black tights	Generic, widely available

PE Kits (Reception to Year 6)

Item	Details
Plain white t-shirt	Generic, widely available
Plain black shorts	Generic, widely available
Plain black joggers	Generic, widely available
White ankle socks	Generic, widely available
Suitable trainers or plimsolls	Generic, widely available
Richard Coates black hoodie or a plain black hoodie/sweatshirt	The Richard Coates hoodie is an optional branded item, available from Tots to Teams. A generic unbranded alternative is fully permitted

PE kits should be fully named and worn to school on PE days with Mr Smith. Kits should be brought to school for all other PE lessons.

Sweatshirts/cardigans should display the school badge and are available from Tots to Teams. All other items may be purchased more widely, including from second-hand retailers.

Footwear

Plain black shoes should be worn at all times. During winter months, children may wear black boots if they wish. Boots should be plain with no heels, fur, tassels or chains.

School has a stock of preloved indoor/outdoor shoes which are provided to children if they do not have their own.

Jewellery

Children are not permitted to wear jewellery in school due to health and safety risks. Watches and articles of religious significance may be worn. Earrings are not permitted.

We request that parents who wish to have their child's ears pierced do so during the summer break. If a child has their ears pierced during term time they will not be permitted to participate in PE whilst the earrings are in place. During this time, earrings must be covered with tape. Clear plastic retainers may be worn if necessary.

Smartwatches and fitness trackers

Smartwatches may not be worn. These have a screen that is essentially an extension of a smartphone, and allow the wearer to check texts, emails, social media and access the internet. For these reasons and due to the value of such items, smartwatches must not be worn for school. If a child brings a smartwatch to school, it will be stored in a locked box until the end of the school day.

A fitness tracker (e.g. Fitbit Ace) is a band with sensors that relays data to a smartphone; these may be worn for school as long as they do not provide the wearer with online access of any kind.

Hair and makeup

We do not consider makeup appropriate for primary age children and pupils are not permitted to wear any such products. However, there may be extreme circumstances at the Headteacher's discretion (e.g. a child may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage).

Hair long enough to be tied back should be tied back for PE and any other lesson deemed necessary by staff.

Labelling

All clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with the child's name. Coats and shoes should also be named.

Religion or beliefs

Some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. We are sensitive to the

needs of different cultures, races and religions and aim to act reasonably in accommodating these needs, without compromising important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. It should be possible for most religious requirements to be met within our school uniform policy.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the Headteacher and published on the school website.

Introduced by	James Watson, Headteacher
Date introduced	9 October 2024
Date adopted by Governing Body	September 2024
Date of last review	October 2026
Next review due	September 2027

Status (brief explanation of changes made)

Date	Changes made
September 2025	Removal of statement regarding extreme hairstyles
June 2026	Description of branded and generic item lists in line with DfE guidance (June 2026)
October 2026	Reviewed for 2026-2027. Layout and formatting updated; no changes to policy content

Our Schools

Belsay Primary School

Darras Hall Primary School

Heddon St. Andrew's CE Primary School

Ponteland High School

Ponteland Primary School

Richard Coates CE Primary School