

# Donegall Road Primary School



## School Uniform Policy

*Date Ratified by Board of Governors: May 2026*

*Date of Review: May 2029*

*Staff Member Responsible: Mr Massey (Principal)*

## 1. Rationale and Purpose

At Donegall Road Primary School, we believe that a school uniform promotes:

- A sense of identity, belonging and community.
- Equality between pupils.
- Pride in the school.

This policy has been developed in line with statutory guidance to ensure that our uniform is affordable and accessible for all families, inclusive and compliant with equality legislation as well as comfortable, practical and suitable for school life.

## 2. Principles Underpinning the Policy

In line with Department of Education guidance, our uniform policy is designed to:

- Minimise costs and avoid placing financial pressure on families.
- Ensure items are widely available from multiple suppliers.
- Promote inclusion, equality and accessibility.
- Support pupil comfort, safety and participation.
- Be transparent and informed by consultation.

## 3. School Uniform Requirements

### 3.1 Everyday Uniform (Core Items)

All branded items carrying the school's name and logo can be purchased from the school office. Unbranded items are available from a variety of retailers including supermarket chains.

Boys	Girls
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Blue school sweatshirt or fleece (<i>branded jumper or fleece is compulsory</i>)</b></li><li>• Red polo shirt (<i>branded polo shirt is optional</i>)</li><li>• Black trousers or tracksuit bottoms (<i>branded tracksuit bottoms are optional</i>)</li><li>• Black socks</li><li>• Black shoes</li><li>• <i>Optional – Black unbranded shorts can be worn in the warmer months.</i></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Blue school sweatshirt or fleece (<i>branded jumper or fleece is compulsory</i>)</b></li><li>• Red polo shirt (<i>branded polo shirt is optional</i>)</li><li>• Black skirt, trousers or tracksuit bottoms (<i>branded tracksuit bottoms are optional</i>)</li><li>• Black socks or tights</li><li>• Black shoes</li><li>• <i>Optional – Blue and white gingham check summer dresses can be worn in warmer months.</i></li></ul>

Pupils may wear plain, unbranded coats in suitable colours.

### **3.2 PE Uniform**

For PE and sport-related activities, children in P1-P3 require gym shoes (if possible, with Velcro strap for convenience). These will be kept in a gym bag (provided) in school.

Children in P4-P7 require plain navy or black shorts or leggings, a plain white t-shirt and gym shoes/trainers. They should wear their school sweatshirt or fleece over the top. Children in P4-P7 wear their PE kit to school on their timetabled PE days or for sporting activities. Items for the PE kit are not provided by school, but available generically from supermarkets and clothes chains (e.g. Primark/Asda, etc.).

## **4. Affordability and Cost Management**

The school is committed to ensuring uniform costs do not place undue financial pressure on families. Items are available from multiple retailers and the school has ensure there is no significant cost difference between options worn by pupils.

We regularly review costs and affordability, where Free School Meal eligibility is the indicator. We endeavour to provide support with uniform where appropriate.

<b>Uniform Item</b>	<b>Branded Cost (available from school office)</b>	<b>Typical Unbranded Cost (available from Asda/Primark etc.)</b>
Blue school sweatshirt or fleece - <b>compulsory</b>	£16	Not available
Red polo shirt	£12	~£3
Black trousers/tracksuit bottoms	£15	~£8
Black skirt	Not available	~£8
Black socks	Not available	~£2 per pair
Black shoes	Not available	~£16
Black tights	Not available	~£4 for a pack of 3
Black shorts - <b>optional</b>	Not available	~£3 per pair
Blue and white gingham summer dress - <b>optional</b>	Not available	~£8 for a pack of 2
Black/Navy shorts for PE (P4-P7 only)	Not available	~£4 for a pack of 2
Plain white t-shirt (P4-P7 only)	Not available	~£5 for a pack of 2
Gym shoes	Not available	~£4

## **5. Equality and Inclusion**

This policy complies with equality and human rights legislation.

We will make reasonable adjustments for pupils with SEN or disabilities, as well as allowing flexibility for cultural, religious or medical reasons to ensure no group is disadvantaged by uniform requirements.

## **6. Comfort and Practicality**

Uniform items have been chosen to ensure they are comfortable and suitable for active learning, easy to clean and maintain and appropriate for all seasons.

## **7. Consultation Process**

The school will:

- Consult with parents, pupils and staff.
- Gather views on affordability and practicality.
- Keep records of consultation and decisions and publish these on the school website.

## **8. Review of Policy**

The uniform policy will be reviewed at least every 3 years, and annual checks will ensure continued affordability.

## **9. Uniform Support Measures**

To support families, the school will hold a small number of pre-loved items, as well as signposting to local uniform banks. We can provide items on loan where required and advise on applying for the Education Authority's Uniform Grant for families that meet the criteria.

## **10. Suppliers**

Non-branded uniform items are available from multiple suppliers, including supermarkets and local retailers. Branded items carrying the school's name and logo are only available to purchase from the school office.

## **11. Transition Arrangements**

When changes are made to uniform, a reasonable transition period will be provided, and existing uniform items may continue to be worn by those due to transition to a new school.

## **12. Expectations and Sensitivity**

Pupils will not be penalised for uniform issues linked to affordability. The school will approach concerns with sensitivity and discretion.

### **13.Publication Requirements**

The school will publish the following on its website:

- Full uniform policy and review date
- Item costs and suppliers
- Consultation outcomes
- Information on uniform bank/support

### **14.Monitoring and Compliance**

The Board of Governors will ensure compliance with statutory guidance provided by the Department of Education and provide data to the Department when required.

## Appendix 1

### School Uniforms (Guidance and Allowances) Act (Northern Ireland) 2026

#### Declaration of Value for Money under Section 3

I, Phil Massey, make this declaration as the Principal of Donegall Road Primary School.

Donegall Road Primary School has entered an agreement for the provision of the following uniform items:

Item	Cost without the agreement	Cost under the agreement
Fleece	£16	£20
Sweatshirt	£16	£16
Polo Shirt	£12	£12
Tracksuit Bottoms	£15	£20
	<b>Total cost with the agreement</b>	<b>Total cost under the agreement</b>
	£59	£68

This agreement commences on 01 September 2025 and expires on 30 June 2027.

I confirm this agreement secures value for money with respect to items and sets of clothing needed by pupils at Donegall Road Primary School.

Name: **Phil Massey**

School: **Donegall Road Primary School**

Date: **May 2026**

Signature: 