



Branziel Primary School & Nursery Unit

<h2>Uniform Policy</h2>				
<i>Prepared by</i>	Niall Manogue		May 2026	
<i>Authorised by</i>	Board of Governors		Month/ Year	
<i>Scheduled Review (Highlight relevant Review cycle)</i>	Review Frequency (years)			Due Date May 2029
	Annual	2	3	

BELONG. RESPECT. ASPIRE

Braniel PS&NU: Ethos, Vision and Values.

Our school uniform policy reflects and supports our vision of being a place where everyone **belongs**, is **respected** and is encouraged to **aspire** to be their best. By wearing a shared uniform, pupils feel part of our school community, promoting a strong sense of belonging and connection. The uniform encourages respect for oneself and others, fostering pride in our school and how we present ourselves.

In line with our BRANIEL values, the uniform policy promotes **inclusion** by ensuring all pupils are treated equally and that differences are celebrated rather than defined by appearance. It supports **nurture** by creating a calm, safe and focused learning environment where children can feel ready to learn. Our expectations around wearing uniform also encourage **effort** and responsibility, helping pupils develop commitment and positive habits. Ultimately, our uniform contributes to a culture where children can focus on **learning**, show **aspiration**, and grow with confidence as valued members of our school community.

Rationale and Aims

The policy aims to:

- Ensure the uniform is affordable, practical and comfortable for all pupils;
- Reduce unnecessary costs by minimising compulsory branded items;
- Promote equality and inclusion, including reasonable adjustments for individual needs;
- Support pupils' independence, health and safety during the school day;
- Encourage pride in the school and positive attitudes towards learning and behaviour.

Statutory and Policy Framework

This policy has been developed in line with:

- School Uniforms (Guidelines and Allowances) Act (Northern Ireland) 2026;
- School Uniforms Guidelines (statutory from 20 February 2026);
- Relevant equality and human rights legislation as referenced within Department of Education guidance.

The Board of Governors will ensure this policy is reviewed regularly, with consultation involving parents and pupils, as required by statute.

School Uniform

To maintain consistency while keeping costs manageable, the school uniform consists primarily of plain, easily sourced items, with a minimal number of branded items. Parents/carers are free to purchase generic items from retailers of their choice.

Primary School

- Navy Blue Braniel school jumper
- White Polo Shirt (P1-3)
- Plain White Shirt & Branded School Tie (P4-7)
- Grey School Trousers/ Skirt
- Grey Tailored Shorts
- Blue and white summer dress (*optional, for warm weather*)

Footwear

- Black shoes suitable for school activities

For Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 pupils, shoes without laces are strongly encouraged to promote independence.

Socks and Tights

- White/ Grey knee-length socks or grey tights with skirts/pinafores
 - Grey or black socks with trousers or shorts
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PE Kit

Following consultation with the school community, an optional PE kit has been introduced recently. Pupils may wear their PE kit on days where they have PE lessons/ Outdoor Learning. This supports comfort, safety and reduces the need for changing during the school day.

- Navy blue shorts or tracksuit bottoms (Branded are available, but **not compulsory**)
- Navy/light blue T-shirt
- Navy/ light blue Braniel quarter zip top/ hoodie.
- Trainers

Coats and Outdoor Wear

- A warm, waterproof coat is required for all pupils, as outdoor play and learning take place throughout the year.

Nursery Unit

- Green Braniel NU Polo Shirt
- Navy Blue Braniel NU Jumper
- Navy Blue Tracksuit bottoms

Jewellery, Hair and Appearance

In the interests of health, safety and practicality:

- Jewellery should not be worn, except for small stud earrings;
- Watches may be worn; however, smart watches or devices with recording or messaging functions are not permitted;
- Long hair should be tied back where appropriate;
- Hair accessories should be small and unobtrusive;
- Make-up and nail varnish are not appropriate for primary school and should not be worn.

Labelling and Care of Uniform

All items of clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with the pupil's name. This helps minimise loss, supports independence and reduces unnecessary costs for families.

Equality, Inclusion and Flexibility

Braniel Primary School is committed to ensuring that this uniform policy:

- Does not disadvantage or exclude any pupil;
- Allows for reasonable adjustments to meet medical, sensory, cultural or Special Educational Needs, in consultation with parents/carers;
- Is applied sensitively and supportively, with the welfare of the child as the primary concern.

No pupil will be penalised or prevented from participating in school life due to their inability to fully meet uniform requirements.

Pre-Loved Uniform

The school maintains a small supply of pre-loved uniform items, including sweatshirts and polo shirts. This supports families, promotes sustainability and helps reduce costs.

Parents/carers are encouraged to contact the school office if they wish to access these items.

The school will work proactively with local organizations in the community to support and facilitate Pre-Loved Uniform schemes each year.

Non-Compliance and Support

The school adopts a supportive and understanding approach to uniform matters. Where concerns arise, staff will work in partnership with parents/carers to resolve issues sensitively and discreetly.

The focus will always be on inclusion, wellbeing and maintaining positive home school relationships.

Review of Policy

This policy will be reviewed regularly by the Board of Governors, with consultation involving parents and pupils, to ensure continued compliance with statutory guidance and the needs of the school community.

Consultation Arrangements

In line with statutory guidance, Braniel Primary School is committed to ensuring that the views of pupils and parents/carers are considered in the development and review of this policy.

A draft copy of the uniform policy will be uploaded to the school website, allowing parents/carers the opportunity to respond and provide feedback within the consultation period.

Pupils will be consulted through the School Council, who will be asked to share their views on the policy and any proposed changes.

All feedback received will be carefully considered by the Board of Governors before finalising or revising the policy.
