

The Meadows Primary School

School Uniform Policy

1. Aims This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment. To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long or short hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the school office, who can direct any questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform. We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Ensuring the majority of school uniform and equipment is generic and is available from a range of retailers
- Only requiring the school jumper/cardigan to be branded, and making them available from the school uniform shop or obtained second hand to keep a control on costs (see page 3)
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Being open to supporting families with uniform on a case-by-case basis

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4. Expectations for school uniform

All school uniform items, and other items such as fleeces, hats, bags and coats can be purchased from our online uniform shop via the link on the school website.

<https://ourschoolwear.co.uk/collections/the-meadows-primary-school>

The only compulsory items purchased from our school uniform shop are the school sweatshirt or cardigan, which are embroidered with the school's logo.

All other uniform items can be purchased from a retailer of your choice.

Winter	Summer
School sweatshirt or school cardigan	School sweatshirt or school cardigan
White polo shirt (with collar and buttons)	White polo shirt (with collar and buttons)
Grey school trousers or shorts (no patch pockets on legs), skirt or pinafore	Grey school shorts (no patch pockets on legs) or red checked school dress (or culottes-type dress)
Grey or navy socks; grey or navy tights or long white socks	Grey socks with shorts or white socks with checked dresses
Sensible, flat black school shoes (not boots or trainers)	Sensible, flat black school shoes (not boots or trainers) or traditional summer sandals.
Additional Information	
Coats should be practical: long sleeved, waterproof and with a hood.	
Boots may be worn to school in bad weather and then changed into school shoes.	

P.E. Kit

On the days when your child's class is timetabled to have P.E., your child should come to school already dressed in their school P.E. kit:

- white, round-necked t-shirt
- plain navy-blue shorts
- white sports socks and trainers
- school sweatshirt or cardigan over the top

Plain, navy blue tracksuit bottoms (no logos) may be worn in colder weather outdoors as an extra layer. All children should also have a warm, waterproof jacket to wear for outside P.E. that enables them to move freely when undertaking physical activities.

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Swimming Kit

- Plain, navy swimming costumes or trunks without logos or trimmings
- Waterproof swimming bag
- Towel
- Swimming goggles (if required)
- Pair of named armbands (blown up ready for the lesson) or a flotation belt if they are non-swimmers

These may be purchased from our online school uniform shop or from a retailer of your choice.

Affordable School Uniform Provision

To support families, good-quality donated items of school uniform are available to purchase from *Friends of the Meadows*.

House Colours

When children enter school, they will be placed into one of our four Houses. Each half-term we have a special House sports competition, when we ask children to wear a t-shirt in their house colour. These are red, yellow, green, or blue.

Jewellery

We have a general policy of **no jewellery** in school as it can cause both security and safety problems. However, we are happy to make the following exceptions:

- Jewellery worn for religious reasons will be allowed
- Small stud earrings may be worn by children who have had their ears pierced, but these must be removed for all P.E. activities, including swimming, in line with current health and safety guidance

If a child has only recently had their ears pierced and is therefore unable to remove their earrings, they may be required to miss all or part of their P.E. lesson, and/or bring in appropriate tape/plaster to cover the piercing (tape cannot be used during swimming lessons). We would therefore advise that if parents are considering allowing their child to have their ears pierced, they do so in the long summer holidays.

Watches

If children choose to wear a watch, we encourage this to be an analogue one as it can support learning how to tell the time. Smart watches or similar devices that can connect to the internet, send or receive messages, make calls, or take photos or videos are not permitted in school. This is to support safeguarding, data protection, and to minimise disruption to learning. Any watch worn in school must not have communication, recording, or online functionality enabled. All watches must be removed for all P.E. activities. If a child is found wearing a smart watch, it may be removed and stored safely until the end of the school day, in line with the school's safeguarding and behaviour procedures.

Haircuts and Hair styles

- Hair should be appropriate for school and support a positive learning environment
- Dyed/coloured hair and designs shaved into hair are not acceptable

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- All long hair (i.e. below shoulder length) must be tied up neatly using the appropriate hair-coloured bobbles/ hair fastener so that children can concentrate and safely enjoy all school activities

Nail Polish and Make up

- Nail polish or makeup are not permitted, and school reserves the right to request its removal.

Hair Accessories

- Plain navy/black bobbles and slides should be worn throughout the year
- Plain red bobbles or red check ribbons and red slides may be worn with the summer dress
- Children may use hair products to ensure their hair is neat and tidy
- Hair accessories must be small and appropriate for school wear and PE activities
- Simple, plain ribbons may be worn but large bows (e.g. jojo bows) and colourful hair adornments (e.g. flowery bobbles, unicorn/cat ears hairbands) are not acceptable

Where a hair accessory is deemed to be inappropriate, the child will be asked to remove it and parents notified that it is unsuitable for school.

5. Expectations for our school community

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents and carers are expected to make sure that their child's presentation is appropriate for school and adheres to the contents of the policy.

Parents are also expected to contact the headteacher (admin@meadows.shropshire.sch.uk) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

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Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in line with the school's complaint's policy. All decision-making around amendments and adherence to the policy is at the final discretion of the headteacher.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

All staff will follow the code of conduct to model positive and professional presentation.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by SLT. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Anti-bullying policy
- Behaviour policy
- Complaints policy
- Equality policy
- Safeguarding policy