

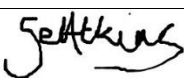


Marchwood Church of England Infant School

Uniform Policy

Headteacher/Responsible Manager: Sally Atkins

Date approved: September 2024

Signed: 

Review due: September 2027

Contents

1. Aims	1
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010	1
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform.....	2
4. Expectations for school uniform	3
5. Expectations for our school community	3
6. Monitoring arrangements.....	5
7. Links to other policies.....	5

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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs in discussion with the SENDCo
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible by only asking that the sweatshirt/cardigan features the school logo
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
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 groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

- Royal blue sweatshirt/cardigan – branded item
- Pale blue or white polo shirt
- Grey trousers/shorts/skirts/dresses
- Royal blue or white PE T-Shirt
- Navy, grey or black jogging bottoms
- Navy, grey or black PE shorts
- Sensible flat black shoes
- Grey or white tights/socks
- Summer blue and white school dresses and grey shorts for the warmer weather
- Book bag – branded item (this is provided free of charge by the PTA when your child first starts school)

In Year R children will need wellies in school which may be any colour. These may also be required for other year groups at certain times.

The only items branded with the school logo that are required are sweatshirts/cardigans and book bags. Parents are able to exercise their own choice as to where to source all other items of uniform, including shoes and coats. We request that only bookbags are brought to school as we do not have the space to store rucksacks and other large bags.

We recommend that hair is tied up to avoid the spread of headlice and for health and safety reasons when accessing the curriculum. Long hair must be tied back on PE days. Hair accessories should be minimal, plain and in the school colours of blue, white, grey or black. We ask that JoJo bows and other extravagant or 'exciting' hair accessories are enjoyed outside of school.

Children should not wear jewellery to school in case of loss, damage or injury. Children with pierced ears may wear plain studs, however in PE these will need to be removed or covered with surgical tape. Care must be taken to cover the spike at the back of the ear lobe effectively and although the element of risk can be reduced by the use of tape, those actions do not make the situation safe. It is the parents'/guardians' responsibility to apply micropore tape before school if it is required, and to train their children to take out and to put in earrings. This is in line with Hampshire and national policy. ***Teachers and other school staff are not able to tape or remove earrings.***

4.2 Where to purchase it

All school uniform items can be ordered online from many retailers or purchased in shops including supermarkets or local independent shops.

Uniform branded with the school logo can be purchased from Skoolkit Ltd.

Our PTA has a stock of good quality preloved uniform and regularly holds uniform sales for parents where items of uniform can be purchased for a small donation. Items of uniform will be available free of charge where needed.

We ask that everything your child wears or brings into school is named. This makes it much easier to reunite children with their belongings when items are mislaid.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 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/carers are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

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

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

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/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Headteacher. 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. 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.

5.4 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/carers 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 3 years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the resources committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy