



School Uniform Policy

St Margaret's CE Primary School

Revision Number	Date Issued	Prepared by	Approved	Personalised by school	Comments
1	December 2024	STC	LGB		

Type of Policy	Tick
DCAT Statutory Policy	
DCAT Non-statutory Policy	
DCAT Model Optional Policy	
School Policy	
Local Authority Policy	

Approved by: Jill Hine **Date:** December 2024

Last reviewed on: December 2024

Next review due by: December 2027

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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 or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- › 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
- › 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
- › Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- › 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
- › Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- › Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- › 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

The Governors feel that the wearing of school uniform by all children promotes a smart, positive image of the school, and we therefore urge all parents to accept and conform to this requirement. School uniform may be ordered from Taylor made Uniforms. www.taylormadeuniforms or My Clothing [My Clothing.com](http://MyClothing.com).

Second-hand uniform is available from the school office. Please enquire at the school office for further details.

- Grey skirt/pinafore or trousers/shorts (not black)
- White or sky blue polo shirt
- Royal blue cardigan or sweatshirt ideally with St. Margaret's logo
- Plain grey or white socks or tights
- Sky blue and white check dress may be worn (in warmer weather)
- White or sky blue polo shirt

Outdoor Wear

All girls and boys are expected to bring a waterproof coat to school each day. Royal blue fleeces with St. Margaret's logo may be worn as an outdoor garment. We recommend the wearing of sun hats in the playground during hot weather.

PE Kit

All children should wear royal blue PE shorts and their house colour t-shirt; black tracksuit or jogging bottoms should be worn for outdoor use in cold weather; white or royal blue socks. Parents will be notified of specialist kit for example football boots or swimwear at the appropriate time.

Suitable Footwear

Both boys and girls should at all times wear dark flat shoes, either black or brown, that are of an appropriate style (not trainers), except for PE lessons when all children must wear training shoes for outdoor games sessions. During the summer term lightweight dark sandals may be worn as school shoes but these must have a closed-in toe.

Personal Jewellery

Jewellery is not appropriate and can be dangerous in schools. Stud earrings are permitted in school but the child, not the staff member, must be responsible for removing these for PE. We ask parents to arrange for any ear piercing to be carried out at the beginning of a holiday period. No other body piercings are allowed. Watches are permitted, but will be taken off for games and PE lessons. Children should not wear makeup or nail varnish in school.

Hair

Children with long hair should wear it in a neat style tied back out of the way. Hairbands and other fixings should be royal blue/black or white to match with the rest of the school uniform.

All hairstyles must be natural and tidy. Extremes of any kind (length, colour or style) are not acceptable and parents are required to accept the judgement of the school in deciding what is a permissible norm within the context of the school community.

Personal Property and Valuables

Parents are asked to help the school by making sure that all clothes are carefully named (this includes gloves, shoes, scarves, Wellington boots and so on) and that the child knows where the name is. Children get upset if they lose their things, and we cannot return un-named clothes. It is advisable not to allow a child to bring valuables of any kind to school – they can too easily be forgotten or mislaid, valuable toys can be broken, and young children also tend to lend or borrow items and make unsuitable 'swaps'.

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 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 school's behaviour policy.

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 three years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the local governing body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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