

Marlbrook Primary School



Little Dewchurch CE Primary School



St Martin's Primary School



School Uniform Policy
November 2022

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Interim Executive Headteacher: Mrs S Jenkins

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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 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 hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- 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 Mrs Susan Jenkins (Interim Headteacher), who can answer 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:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents 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

WINTER

Trousers (not jeans) - school grey/charcoal/black for boys and girls

Skirt – school grey/charcoal/black

Shirt/Blouse - white

Polo or T-shirt - white (plain or school print)

Jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan - navy (plain or school print)

Tie - School ties are available from the Office

SUMMER

As above or :

Charcoal grey or black shorts / culottes (for boys and girls).

Blue and white checks or striped dresses may also be worn.

SHOES

Preferably black and below ankle height. They should be as flat and low heeled as possible. Not to be any higher than 3.5cms (1½inches). *We do not allow children to wear trainers in school, except at play-times.* In Summer the children may wear low heeled, sensible sandals in any colour – but please not flip flops or 'jelly shoes'. The children should be able to run safely in their shoes!

HATS/SUNGLASSES/SUNCREAM

Baseball caps and woollen hats are available in school colours. In Summer, hats are encouraged of any variety and colour. We encourage children to bring sunglasses during sunny weather for playtimes and lunchtimes.

SCHOOL PRINTS

Cardigans (£7.80) - Navy with school print badge and MARLBROOK SCHOOL
Sweatshirts (£7.00) – Navy with school print badge and MARLBROOK SCHOOL
Polo shirts (£5.50) – White with school print badge and MARLBROOK SCHOOL
Baseball caps (£3.70)
Woollen hats (£3.20)
PE polo shirt (£4.50)
PE t-shirt (Blue top) (£2.50)
PE bag (£3.50)

PE/Games kit

WINTER

Football boots/trainers; black/navy shorts or pleated skirt
Pale blue polo or long sleeved shirt / sweatshirt (plain or school print).
Black/navy tracksuit or jogging bottoms.

INDOOR / SUMMER KIT

Trainers
Black/navy shorts
Pale blue T-shirt or polo shirt (plain or school print)
Trainers/pumps for outdoor wear

Key Stage 1 children should wear pumps rather than trainers.

Jewellery/Presentation

For health and safety purposes we do not allow children to wear jewellery (rings, necklaces, bracelets), except an inexpensive watch and small earrings. Unfortunately, we cannot be held responsible for the loss of watches or ear-rings. Children will be expected to remove ear-rings for PE lessons or cover them with plasters.

In terms of presentation, we also do not allow children to have any other kind of body piercing then ear-piercing.

We also actively discourage the use of hair gel / mousse and hair dye during the school day. We also prefer parents not to have 'tram lines' or designs/logos cut into children's hair during term time- surprisingly, we find it impacts directly on the behaviour of children.

4.2 Where to purchase it

School uniform with the logo can be purchased from the school office and order forms are available on request with the most up to date price list.

All non-logoed uniform can be purchased from local supermarkets or retailers e.g ASDA, Tesco, Sainsburys, Morrisons, Primark. Please refer to the uniform in 4.1 for correct colour of each item.

We have a 'Lost Property' cupboard in the main entrance, which you are welcome to look through at any time. However, we are not in a position to replace lost items of clothing or reimburse the cost of the items.

We offer a Coffee and chat session for parents every Wednesday where all lost property that is un-named is washed and dried and is available for parents to take – held on Wednesday mornings in Green Croft.

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 Mrs Susan Jenkins (Interim 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 are also expected to contact Mrs Susan Jenkins (Interim 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 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 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 Mrs Susan Jenkins (Interim 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.

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 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 annually by Mrs Susan Jenkins (Interim Headteachers). At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.