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St Mary's C of E Primary School



School Uniform Policy

Committee responsible	
Approval required by	FGB
Statutory or Recommended	Statutory
Frequency of review	Annual
Date approved	June 2025
Date of next review	June 2026
Display on website	Y
Link with other policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Behaviour policy • Equality information and objectives statement • Anti-bullying policy • Complaints policy
Signed by the Chair Of Governors:	Joseph Al Khalili
Signed by the Headteacher:	Emmeline Lawlor

St Mary's Primary School, Church Lane, Chessington, KT9 2DH

<https://www.stmaryschessington.co.uk>

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
- 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, Mrs Emmeline Lawlor, 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

- 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
- 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
- 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

- Navy logoed school sweatshirt or cardigan
- White shirt, blouse, polo short OR white logoed polo shirt
- Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or tunic
- Optional blue & white checked dress or playsuit (from Easter to October Half Term)
- Grey, black, white or navy socks or tights
- Plain black shoes

P.E Kit

- Plain or logoed t-shirt in house colour
- Navy blue shorts (unbranded)
- Black plimsolls or plain trainers that are mainly black, white or navy.
- In cold weather, pupils may wear plain (unbranded) navy jogging bottoms and a plain (unbranded) hoody or logoed school sweatshirt or cardigan.

Hair accessories should be navy blue or black. Children are not permitted to wear any jewelry other than a watch. If your child has pierced ears, we ask that they wear plain stud earrings only. These should be taken out on P.E. days.

Pupils in reception and Key Stage 1 require a bookbag – logoed or plain navy blue

Pupils in Key Stage 2 require a school bag or rucksack – logoed or plain blue or black.

The following **optional** logoed items are also available from our school uniform supplier

- rucksack
- bookbag
- sun cap
- reversible waterproof jacket
- winter hat

4.2 Where to purchase it

All uniform items, including logoed items, can be purchased from PMG Schoolwear, 393-395 Hook Road, Chessington KT9 1EL or online at <https://pmgschoolwear.co.uk/school/stmaryschessington>

Non-logoed items can also be purchased from a large number of high street stores.

The school PTA holds used uniform sales at various points throughout the year, including at new parent meetings where parents and carers can purchase good quality pre-loved uniform items at an affordable price.

In addition, the school operates a uniform 'swap shop' where parents and carers are encouraged to donate good quality items that their child no longer needs and can select items from the rail that are of use for their child.

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 Lawlor 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 Mrs Lawlor 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.

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 annually by Mrs Clare Quinn, Deputy Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.