

School Uniform Policy

Approved by Governing Body: September 2022

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Statement of intent

Wynyard Church of England Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.



1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following Melrose Learning Trust policies:

- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The local governing body is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the local governing body.
- Providing pupils with an exemptions as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Liaising with parents when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
- LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. polo shirts, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible and the school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

4. Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in section 3.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that views and advice is sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender, including non-binary pupils.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has dress requirements.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and local governing body, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

5. Complaints and challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

6. School uniform suppliers

We current have three school uniform suppliers:

Academy Wear UK Ltd

Wynyard CoE Primary
School –
academywearuk.co.uk

Kepier House, Belmont Business Park, Durham, DH1 1TW

Tel: 07855349976

Emblematic

Wynyard Church Of England Primary School (studentuniform.co.uk)

Unit 26 North Tyne Industrial Estate, Longbenton, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE12 9SZ

Motif8

Wynyard CE Primary School
- Primary Schools (W - Z) Schools (motif8.co.uk)

17 Stephenson Street, Gladstone Industrial Estate, Thornaby, TS17 6AL

Tel: 01642 601501

7. Pre-Loved Uniform

Given the expense of school uniform, the fact that children grow so quickly and to promote sustainability, the school holds a number of items of pre-loved uniform for parents to access. Access to these uniform items is available on request to the school office or the headteacher.

From October 2022, we will also have a dedicated social media page run by our Friends of Wynyard group, which will allow parents to donate pre-loved uniform items for other families in school to access. If any parent wishes to anonymously request pre-loved items via this platform, they can contact the headteacher and school will request such items on the platform on their behalf.

8. Non-compliance

The school will seek to work with parents when a pupil is in breach of the uniform policy to rectify the issue.

Where a pupil continues to breach the uniform policy, the headteacher will seek to meet with parents to discuss this further.

9. School uniform

School colours

Our school colours are as follows:

- Red
- Grey
- White

Clothing

The school uniform is as follows:

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire	Cost per item from school supplier		
Regular school uniform						
Red sweatshirt or red cardigan	Required	School logo on right-hand side	Branded sweatshirts and cardigans are available from all of our school suppliers.	£9.50-£11.75		
White polo shirt	Required	No branding	Available from school supplier and from regular retailers.	£7.85-£9.75		
Grey trousers, shorts, pinafore or skirt.	Required	No branding	Available from school supplier and from regular retailers.	£11.99-£12.99		
Sensible, plain black shoes	Required	No branding	Available from regular retailers.	N/A		
PE kit						
Plain red t-shirt	Required	School logo on right-hand side	Available from school supplier.	£4.50-£6.85		
Plain navy shorts	Required	No branding	Available from school supplier and from regular retailers.	£4.00-£5.50		
Black plimsolls	Required	No branding	Available from school supplier and from regular retailers.	£4.45		
Jumper, sweatshirt or hoodie for outdoor PE sessions	Optional	No branding	Available from school supplier and from regular retailers.	£15		
Tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE sessions	Optional	No branding	Available from regular retailers.	N/A		

Accessories						
School book bag	Optional	School logo	Available from school suppliers.	£5.40-£10.20		
School PE bag	Optional	School logo	Available from school suppliers.	£4.00-£5.50		
School coat	Optional	School logo	Available from school suppliers.	£17.00-£24.40		
School woollen hat	Optional	School logo	Available from school suppliers.	£3.50-£3.95		

The school holds a pre-loved selection of many items of the required uniform outlined above, which is available on request.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

Jewellery

No jewellery is permitted to be worn in school other than a sensible wrist watch.

Wrist watches are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All wrist watches must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and science experiments.

School bags

Pupils will need to bring an appropriately sized bag to school to carry reading books and other equipment between home and school.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

Makeup

The school rules on makeup are as follows:

- Make up, including nail varnish should not be worn.
- Temporary tattoos are not permitted.

10. Adverse weather

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Summer dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
- Tops that cover the shoulder area.

Pupils are advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.

11. Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is be taken to the lost property box in the school office.

12. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years by the local governing body and the headteacher.

The scheduled review date for this policy is September 2024.