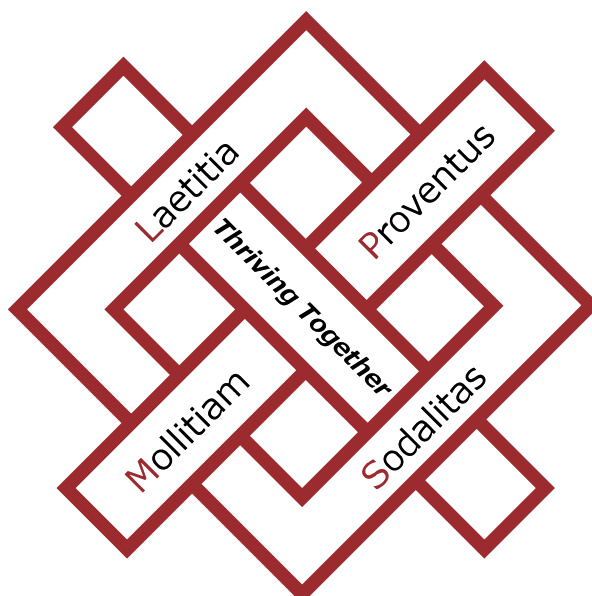




Lytchett Matravers Primary School

Uniform Policy



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Approved By:	Kris Knudsen	Date:	Date: July 2024
Start Date:	Date: September 24	Review Date:	Date: September 26

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Introduction and Policy Aims/Purpose

At L.M.P.S., uniform is worn throughout the school as we believe it encourages a sense of belonging and identity.

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 in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform and further linked guidance on expectations.

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, disability, 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 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 gender
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Matt Vernon, Laura Dominey or Amy Foster, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

Limiting the cost of school uniform

Parents should not have to think about the cost of a school uniform when choosing which school(s) to apply for. Therefore, schools need to ensure that their uniform is affordable. In considering cost, schools will need to think about the total cost of school uniforms, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school. Schools should keep the use of branded items to a minimum.

A school's uniform policy should be published on the school's website, be available for all parents, including parents of prospective pupils, and be easily understood. Schools should ensure that their uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money (including the quality and durability of the garment).

Single supplier contracts should be avoided unless regular tendering competitions are run where more than one supplier can compete for the contract and where the best value for money is secured. This contract should be retendered at least every 5 years.



Uniform at our School

Our aim is that uniform is inclusive and low cost. It consists of the following items:

- White polo shirt (plain)
- Lytchett Matravers branded jumper, cardigan or fleece
- Grey plain skirt (knee length), grey shorts or grey trousers
- Plain grey socks or tights
- A summer gingham dress (red and white check) can be worn in warmer weather
- Plain black sensible school shoes, not boots or trainers. Shoes should be all black including the soles and in good condition so that pupils are safe and comfortable.
- During winter months all children should wear a coat as they spend time outside during the day.

P.E. Kits

All children are required to have a P.E. uniform which consists of

- Plain black shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings (no sporting logos)
- Plain white T-Shirt (no sporting logos) or plain T-shirt in house colours (Arundel – yellow; Maltravers – blue; Trenchard – green)*
- Sports trainers (Please note: indoor gymnastics will be conducted in bare feet)
- Optional school branded hoodie or plain hoodie in school maroon colour (school jumper or fleece can be worn as an alternative)

* From September 2025 all pupils should wear a plain T-shirt in house colours.

General Appearance

Hair

- All hair at or below shoulder length must be tied back or braided at all times in school, but especially during P.E. and games lessons.
- Hair ties and headbands must be small and discreet.
- Hair should be off the face, clipped back and not obscuring sight.
- Hair should be no shorter than a Grade 2 cut and pupils should not wear extreme hair fashions, including dyed or streaked hair and images or lines cut into the hair.

Jewellery

Apart from plain stud earrings and small analogue or digital watches (which have an educational value in helping children to learn how to tell the time and take responsibility for their own time keeping), the wearing of jewellery in school is not permitted. Items can easily get lost or damaged, or may be the cause of injury. The school cannot accept responsibility for the loss of such articles.

Smart watches are not allowed in school due to their value and being a potential distraction from learning, as well as due to the potential safeguarding risk that they pose.



Jewellery in P.E. and swimming lessons

During any physical education in school, children must not wear any jewellery because of safety aspects. Children must therefore either be able to remove earrings themselves, or not wear stud earrings to school on P.E. days.

We request that parents / carers try and arrange for their children to have their ears pierced at the very beginning of the summer holiday so that by September studs can be removed for P.E. lessons. As all children's ears are different and the healing rate varies there might be the need to wear studs for slightly longer than the recommended time of six weeks. If this is the case, then the studs must be removed either by the child or parent before the P.E. lesson begins. P.E. and swimming are a compulsory part of the National Curriculum and children are expected to take part in all sessions.

Make-up and Nails

The wearing of make-up, nail varnish or false nails is considered inappropriate for a learning culture and is not permitted. Children will be asked to remove this / these items.

Further points

All personal property should be very clearly marked with the child's name.

Pupils in the incorrect uniform may be provided with items of clothing to change into in order to meet our school expectations.

Religions and Beliefs

Some religions and beliefs require their adherents to conform to a particular dress code or to otherwise outwardly manifest their belief. This could include wearing or carrying specific religious artefacts, not cutting their hair, dressing modestly, or covering their head. Pupils have the right to manifest a religion or belief, but not necessarily at all times, places or in a particular manner. If our school has good reason for restricting an individual's freedoms, for example, the promotion of cohesion and good order in the school, or genuine health and safety or security considerations, the restriction of an individual's rights to manifest their religion or belief may be justified.

The school will be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and act reasonably in accommodating these needs, without compromising important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. It should be possible for most religious requirements to be met within a school uniform policy and the local governing board will act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating these.

Preloved Uniform

We ensure that second-hand uniforms are available for parents to acquire and maintain a stock of preloved uniform within the school. Information in relation to how to access this clothing is regularly communicated to families through email and the school website.

We ask all parents to donate any uniform that is still in good condition but is no longer used to support both the local community and for environmental reasons.



Engagement with parents/carers

The school will engage with parents and pupils when developing their uniform policy to ensure that it is suitable for their school community, recognising that the school community may change over time. 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 dealt with in accordance with the school's complaints policy. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Discrimination

Even when a policy has been agreed, school staff will be able to allow for some individual variations to their uniform policy, where necessary to avoid indirect discrimination. For instance, reasonable adjustments will be made, as appropriate, for pupils with a disability. We aim to make our school uniform as inclusive as possible so if parents have any requests or concerns then please contact the school.

Other things to think about

We ask for all items of clothing are labelled with the child's name and class to avoid them being lost.

During hot weather, children should bring a bottle of water and a sun hat into school, every day. Please remember to apply sunscreen in the morning before school. A labelled bottle of suncream can also be brought into school for children to self-apply during the day where necessary.

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 leadership team.

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.

Governors

The governing body will review this policy to ensure it is appropriate for the school context, is implemented fairly across the school and is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.

Associated Policies

This policy links to:

Complaints policy

Behaviour policy

Equality information and objectives



Appendix 1 – Policy Summary

Main uniform:

- White polo shirt (plain)
- Lytchett Matravers branded jumper, cardigan or fleece
- Grey plain skirt (knee length), grey shorts or grey trousers
- Plain grey socks or tights
- A summer gingham dress (red and white check) can be worn in warmer weather
- Plain black sensible school shoes, not boots or trainers. Shoes should be all black including the soles and in good condition so that pupils are safe and comfortable.
- During the winter months all children should wear a coat for times when they are outside.

PE Kits:

- Plain black shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings (no sporting logos)
- Plain white T-Shirt (no sporting logos) or plain T-shirt in House colours
- Sports trainers (Please note: indoor gymnastics will be conducted in bare feet)
- Optional school branded hoodie or plain hoodie in school maroon colour (school jumper or fleece can be worn as an alternative)

General appearance:

- All hair at or below shoulder length must be tied back or braided at all times in school, but especially during P.E. and games lessons.
- Hair ties and headbands must be small and discreet.
- Hair should be off the face, clipped back and not obscuring sight.
- Hair should be no shorter than a Grade 2 cut and pupils should not wear extreme hair fashions, including dyed or streaked hair and images or lines cut into the hair.

Jewellery

- No jewellery is permitted with the exception of plain stud earrings and small analogue / digital wrist watches.
- Smart watches are not allowed in school.
- During any physical education in school, children must not wear any jewellery because of safety aspects.

Make-up and Nails

- The wearing of make-up, nail varnish or false nails is not permitted.

Further points

- All personal property should be very clearly marked with the child's name.
- Pupils in the incorrect uniform may be provided with items of clothing to change into in order to meet our school expectations.

