



MIDDLETON PARISH CHURCH SCHOOL

UNIFORM POLICY

'Excellence, Truth & Grace'

RATIONALE

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We ask children to wear their shirts tucked into their skirts, trousers or shorts and to take pride in their personal appearance. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on request. Information regarding school uniform can also be found on the school's website in the section entitled, 'Parents'.

Aims and objectives

Our policy for school uniform has been informed by the DfE document, 'School uniform: Guidance for governing bodies, school leaders, school staff and local authorities' (September 2013) and also the statutory guidance 'Education: Cost of school uniforms (November 2021)

School uniform: -

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money;
- is designed with health and safety in mind;
- is expected to be worn by every child unless prevented by a protected characteristic
- Is worn all year

School Uniform Availability

Most of the items are available from local shops and supermarkets, such as shirts, pairs of trousers, skirts, pinafores and grey jogging bottoms. Broadbents in Middleton sell items with the school logo, such as sweatshirts, jumpers and cardigans. We endeavour to ensure that the uniform is not too expensive as this can place an unreasonable burden on families. Our school also makes every effort to source items and communicate this information with parents via links on Class Dojo.

A selection of school uniform is kept in school to be loaned to any child who is unable to attend school in the correct uniform for whatever circumstance.

Uniform which is donated to the school, or is unclaimed and unlabelled will be made available to parents and carers at minimal or no cost.

School will set up a store of second hand uniform which is clean and in good condition and make this known to parents and carers; second-hand uniforms can benefit all parents, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable.

In some cases, Rochdale Local Authorities can provide school clothing grants to help with the cost of school clothing in cases of financial hardship. Enquire at the school office for more details.

If a child is unable to wear any aspect of school uniform due to a protected characteristic, an application must be made in writing to the Head teacher.

Jewellery

Jewellery should **not** be worn in our school. The exceptions to this rule are:

- Small plain silver or gold stud earrings in pierced ears
- A small wristwatch

We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons. *(The school advises parents who wish their children to have their ears pierced to do so at the beginning of the school holidays so that the earrings can be removed in September.)*

Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems e.g. diabetes or epilepsy.

Nail Varnish

Nail varnish is **not** part of school uniform and is not permitted at any time. Children who wear nail varnish to school will be asked to remove it at home.

Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (**No shorter than a number 2**), extreme patterns 'V' styles, Mohican cuts, or dyed, tipped or dipped hair are also forbidden. Pupils with long hair (girls and boys) should also tie it back for safety reasons. For those children who, as part of their culture, wear coloured hair extensions, we ask that the colours tie in with the school colours.

Footwear

We require **all** children to wear plain black unbranded shoes as stated in the uniform list. During the winter months, boots may be worn to school, but children should change into black pumps or school shoes once inside the building. Fashionable boots i.e. branded boots such as Ugg or high heeled boots are **not** allowed to be worn in school. Plain, unbranded, black trainers should be worn for outdoor PE lessons, but must **not** be worn as normal school footwear. Canvas and trainer type shoes must also **not** be worn.

The role of parents

We expect all parents and carers to support the school uniform policy.

Parents/Carers should: -

- Send their children to school correctly dressed and able to participate in all the learning opportunities provided. We will remind parents of the need to ensure that their children are appropriately dressed for all learning.
- Ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.
- Label **all** of their child's school uniform (including shoes and coats) clearly with their child's full name and class.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Head teacher.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the Head teacher in implementing the 'School uniform' policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the 'School uniform' policy and liaises with the Head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the 'School uniform' policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- Seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- Considering, with the Head teacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- Requiring the Head teacher to report to the governors on the way the school is ensuring that the uniform policy is implemented.

Next Review Date: Sep 2026