



Milverton Community Primary School and Pre-School

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Policy Type	Non-statutory
Approved by	Full Governing Board
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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 the Office Manager or 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 [DfE Statutory Guidance](#) 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
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We will do this by:

- › Stocking a pre-loved uniform cupboard for all to access for a minimal donation per item
- › 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 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 minimizing 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 uniform

4.1.1 The school colours are royal blue, grey and white. Parents are asked to support the school in ensuring that children wear the school uniform as follows:

- Sweatshirt or cardigan with Milverton School logo
- Charcoal grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress
- White polo shirt
- White, grey or black socks/tights
- Blue and white gingham summer dress (optional)
- Low-heeled, sensible, dark-coloured shoes or boots (not trainers)

4.1.2 **Sports clothing** should be brought to school in a named bag and should include:

- Navy blue or black PE shorts
- T-shirt in your child's house colour (yellow, blue, red or green)
- Trainers for outdoor activities

4.1.3 **Hair** should be styled appropriately for school. Extreme haircuts, excessive use of hair products, motifs shaved into hair and hair dyeing are not considered appropriate. Hair bands and accessories should be simple/discreet and preferably school colours. Children will be asked to tie long hair back for PE.

4.1.4 **Make-up**, including nail polish, should not be worn to school.

4.1.5 **Jewellery** other than stud earrings and a watch is not permitted in school. Stud earrings will need to be removed for all PE activities 6 weeks or more after piercing. Newly pierced ears must be covered by tape or plasters, provided from home. Stud earrings must always be removed for swimming for health and safety reasons. Watches – analogue watches are preferable. Digital watches, with a time display and no other functionality, will be permitted.

4.2 Where to purchase school uniform

4.2.1 Branded items of school uniform can be bought online from SouthWest Schoolwear –

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

Telephone – 01823 278080 (Taunton Shop)

4.2.2 Second-hand uniform can be purchased from the Milverton School Association who can be emailed at msa-somerset@outlook.com.

4.2.3 Parents struggling to meet the cost of school uniform are encouraged to discuss in confidence with the Office Manager or Finance Officer.

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)

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 reasonable condition

Parents are also expected to contact the 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 Complaints Policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will monitor compliance with this policy and contact parents if necessary. Where 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

Governors will review this policy and make sure that it:

- › Is appropriate for the 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

Governors 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 by the Governing Body every two years.