School uniform policy

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Type of Policy:	**School Policy**

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Type of Policy	*Tick* ✓
DCAT Statutory Policy	
DCAT Non-statutory Policy	
DCAT Model Optional Policy	
School Policy	✓
Local Authority Policy	

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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 Head who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

The March has a school uniform. We are all proud to be part of the school and children are encouraged to wear their uniform well! 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 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

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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
- 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/house 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 minimising 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's uniform

- Tailored grey trousers, shorts or skirt or pinafores to be worn. Summer dresses in the summer term if they wish to.
- White (Summer) or grey socks/tights only (winter)
- Pale blue cotton/Polo shirts with school tie for KS2 and pale blue cotton/polo shirts for KS1. KS1 may wish to wear a tie with a cotton shirt. This is optional for KS1, KS2 must wear ties.
- Burgundy sweatshirt with school logo.
- All children are expected to wear black school shoes, no trainers or open toed sandals.
- Simple hair accessories, school colours.

For Physical Education (PE kits should be kept in school between Monday to Friday).

- Pale blue "Leaping March hare" tee shirt
- Burgundy sports shorts
- Plimsolls or trainers - whichever your child feels more comfortable in.
- Navy blue/black tracksuit for winter (optional)
- Draw string PE bag to hang all kit on peg

For Swimming KS2

- Swimming kit - one piece costume or trunks (not shorts)
- Towel
- Bag for kit and hairbrush et

All items of clothing should be clearly marked and labelled with your child's name. Jewellery is inappropriate and can be dangerous in school. Children may wear a watch and if your child has pierced ears **single small studs are the only style permitted.** However, these must be removed for PE and swimming. Your child MUST be able to remove the earrings themselves. We do not tape ears for PE lessons

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Parents and carers can obtain the uniform from most high street stores and Game Set and Match can embroider the surname of your child onto the back of the jumper. A link to their website is Here
- Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will arrange an exchange or second-hand uniform sale

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 the head teacher 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 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's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by reference to the school's behaviour policy.

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 and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the Head. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy