

School uniform policy

Allscott Meads Primary School and Nursery



Allscott Meads

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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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Kirsty Parkinson, Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
- That School Logo's are not compulsory provided items purchased are of the correct style/ colour, for e.g. polo shirts/ trousers.
- That alternatives to higher cost items are acceptable such as a plain grey skirt.
- That children can opt to wear any of the agreed uniform, for e.g. girls can opt to wear grey school trousers if this is their preference.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible and offering acceptable alternatives
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as non-branded polo shirts/ plain grey skirt.
- 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers 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 requirements

- Branded/ non-branded white polo shirt
- Branded/ non-branded purple jumper/ cardigan
- Checked Pinafore/ Skirt/ Plain grey skirt
- Plain grey trousers (not leggings) Trousers can also be worn under a skirt for religious reasons
- Purple and white checked summer dress
- Plain grey trousers
- Black school shoes
- Black/ grey tights
- Black/ grey/ white socks
- A warm/ waterproof plain coat
- A sun hat/ cap in the Summer Term

- No jewelry except one set of plain stud earrings if ears are pierced
- A non-internet linked wristwatch is acceptable, 'smart' watches of any type are not acceptable and will be placed in a locked draw/ cupboard and returned to parents/ carers at the end of the school day.
- Hair styles should be practical, simple to manage and comfortable, they should not distract or prevent the child from focusing on their learning.
- Hair can be worn short, mid length or long, however long hair must be tied back or held in place with a headband to be kept out of the child's eyes for learning.
- Extreme hair styles of any type are strongly discouraged.
- The presence of coloured hair dye in term time is not acceptable.
- Make-up, nail polish and transfer tattoos are not acceptable.

Specific PE Kit Requirements

- A purple T-shirt with the Allscott Meads logo/ Plain purple T-shirt.
- Black shorts in summer.
- Black jogging bottoms in Winter or for religious reasons.
- Trainers for outdoor PE/ Plain black pumps
- A purple jacket (PE only, this is not standard daily school uniform)

4.2 Where to purchase it

- All branded uniform items are available to purchase from Bakers Outfitters Wellington Telford
- Plain items can be bought from local supermarkets
- The school provides regular opportunities for parents/ carers to recycle and reuse good quality pieces of uniform. This is linked to our ambition to be a school that recycles and reuses resources where possible and is actively encouraged.
- The LCT Trust also recognises families who may require financial support in attaining uniform.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (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 Kirsty Parkinson (Headteacher) 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/carers are also expected to contact Kirsty Parkinson (Headteacher) at allscottmeads@lct.education if they wish to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents/carers 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/carers 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 Kirsty Parkinson (Headteacher) and clean/ spare items of school uniform may be used for the child to wear whilst in school.

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 account of the views of parents/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board 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 annually by Kirsty Parkinson (Headteacher) At every review, it will be approved by Julie Francis (Chair of Governors) and Kirsty Parkinson (Headteacher)

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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