Mayflower

School Uniform Policy

Approved by:	Mayflower Governing Board	**Date:** 24.5.23
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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

- Our intention is to abide by the Equality Act 2010 which prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics.

- 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
- 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 theHeadteacher 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 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 and carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of 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 uniform

Red or white polo top. Red or navy blue *uniform* jumper or cardigan. Grey *uniform* trousers or skirt. Black shoes or black trainers.

In the warmer weather children can wear *uniform* grey shorts and blue or red gingham dresses. We promote active learning and uniforms can get grubby, we recommend that pupils have two sets of uniform so that children are looking smart throughout the week.

We ask that all uniform, including coats and all personal property is marked with your child's name, this is important because we have no way of returning lost property if it is not clearly named.

Please keep the wearing of jewellery to a minimum. Pupils are responsible for the safe keeping of all their belongings. If older girls wish to wear a head scarf, these should be plain, navy blue, or white.

Physical Education (P.E.)

Pupils need a plain white t-shirt and navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms or leggings for P.E. Some activities will require the use of plimsolls or trainers (black).Girls who wear the hijab can wear a hijab cap for PE.

For health and safety reasons, hoop ear rings, necklaces or scarves cannot be worn during P.E. lessons.

P.E. kits can be kept in school in a Mayflower P.E kit bag (these bags take up less space on the hooks) P.E. kits should be taken home regularly for washing. Children from year 1 wear PE kit.

Swimming

Pupils learn to swim in Lower Key Stage 2, at Poplar Baths. They go swimming every week. Pupils need a swimming costume or trunks, a towel and a swimming hat. Swimming hats and swimming bags can be bought at the school office. (no ear rings can be worn when children go swimming)

4.2 Where to purchase it

School uniform can be bought at any of the large supermarkets, or online. We have attempted to make our uniform as inexpensive as possible and have given pupils an element of choice. Please note that jogging bottoms are not part of our uniform and trousers must be grey. No commercial logos on any part of the uniform.

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 Dee Bleach, 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 are also expected to contact Dee Bleach, 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 concerns 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 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 SLT.

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

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 by the headteacher in 5 years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board/committee

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

Behaviour policy

Equality information and objectives statement

Complaints policy

School Prospectus