



School Uniform policy

Date of issue: January 2024
Due for review: January 2027

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Clarify our expectations for school uniform and how we will implement these
- 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

School uniforms aim to provide comfortable and appropriate clothing for all pupils, and to foster a sense of belonging and identity. At Wymondley JMI School, we believe that wearing a school uniform strengthens pupils' attitudes and supports children to feel ready to learn.

2. Expectations for school uniform

2.1 Our school's uniform

The school uniform consists of the following:

- Grey skirt/pinafore dress/shorts/trousers or green and white checked dresses (these should be school uniform style - no joggers or cargo-style shorts)
- White blouse/shirt or polo shirt
- Green v-necked sweatshirt or cardigan
- Plain black or white short or knee length socks (not over the knee) or black, green or grey tights
- Shoes should be flat, black and appropriate for school (no trainers or wheelie type shoes should be worn)

Please note skirts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows children to sit comfortably on the floor. When children wear shorts, even when these are worn over tights, they should also be of an appropriate length. Reversible waterproof coats, with the school logo, which are suitable for all children, are also available from Beats School Uniform. Please note that children should not wear scarves, hats, gloves or other cold weather items inside the school building. Your child should wear indoor and outdoor shoes which they can manage to do up independently. Please do not send your child to school in shoes which prevent them from running in the playground. If boots are worn these also should be plain black.

PE Kit For Physical Education

On PE days, children should wear their PE kit in to school and will remain in this for the whole day to maximise physically active time during PE lessons. If your child attends a sports club on a day that they do not have PE they will need to come into school wearing their school uniform and bring with them a change of clothes and footwear and a drawstring bag in which to keep the kit at school. PE bags are issued to each child when they start at Wymondley. Replacements may be purchased from Beats School Uniform. All school uniform and PE kit **MUST** be named. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing; please help us by naming everything.

The PE Kit consists of:

- Plain black shorts
- Plain green T-shirt with logo or without
- A pair of trainers – velcro fastenings are essential for younger children
- Plain black jogging bottoms and hoodie/tracksuit top for outdoor lessons in cold weather

Branded clothing is not permitted. For the avoidance of doubt, plain means that there are no

logos, (with the exception of the school logo which is optional), no changes in colour or any other pattern or embellishment on the clothing.

Earrings

We want all pupils to enjoy PE safely, so all jewellery, and especially earrings, must be removed during PE lessons. This is in accordance with the Association for Physical Education's National safety guidance. Please note that teachers are unable to remove earrings for pupils and taping is not in line with safety guidelines, so if a pupil cannot remove their own earrings they should not be worn to school on PE days. We recommend that all piercings are completed in July at the start of the Summer holiday so that pupils are not unable to participate in PE or swimming lessons.

Swimming Kit

The school swimming kit consists of the following:

- A swimming costume (not bikinis) or trunks
- A towel
- A swimming hat

Additional Uniform Information and Guidance

Pupils' hair (all pupils) must be tied back during all lessons, especially PE, to avoid danger of long hair being caught. If your child has long hair, please provide a pack of plain, black, white, hair-coloured or green hair ties. Hair bands should not have large flowers/bows or other items attached. Make-up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have hair coloured or dyed. Children are permitted to wear basic fitbits/watches but they do so at their own risk. The school will not pay for loss or damage. Smart watches are not permitted in school.

For safety reasons we ask that pupils do not wear jewellery. Watches may be worn during the school day but must be removed for PE. Pupils should not wear SmartWatches. If children have pierced ears, they can only wear a small, plain, round, gold or silver stud. No other jewellery items should be worn unless they have religious or cultural significance and have been agreed with the Headteacher. Nail varnish and make up should not be worn.

Note that polo shirts and garments with elasticated waistbands are much easier to change into and out of, especially for the younger children, and we do not recommend 'playsuit' summer dresses for younger children as they can make toileting difficult. All clothing and other personal items brought to school by pupils should be permanently marked with their name. Children also need weather-appropriate clothing for playtime. In winter, coats are essential and hats, gloves and scarves may be appropriate. In summer, sun hats are essential (wide brimmed styles are recommended). Waterproof trousers are recommended in poor weather so pupils can continue to use the field where possible.

2.2 Where to purchase it

All school uniform can be purchased from a wide range of local and high-street retailers. If parents and carers wish to purchase optional branded items, they may do so from our uniform supplier - [Beats School Uniform](#) in Hitchin. School have a Swap Shop supplying free second hand uniform and we encourage parents and carers to acquire second hand uniform from the Swap Shop. The Swap Shop rail is on display throughout the year at events, and in the foyer area, and

free second hand uniform can be requested at any time via the school office.

3. Expectations for our school community

3.1 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)

3.2 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 invited to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an exception to be made to the uniform policy in relation to:

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

3.3 Staff

Staff will monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families not meeting the expectations of the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, by issuing a uniform reminder slip daily until the item of uniform is correct. Staff will follow up with the Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve within a week. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy may be dealt with under the school's Behaviour Policy if this is appropriate. Where the Headteacher considers the child to be not in adequate school uniform, the Headteacher may contact a parent or carer immediately and request that they bring the correct uniform for the pupil before they learn in their classroom. 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, and offer Parents and Carers donations of correct uniform from the Swap Shop stock or provide uniform items from school funds.

3.4 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.

4. 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/carers

We will do this by:

- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler (only jumpers and cardigans from the uniform list)
- Ensuring the purchase of items with the school logo is optional for parents
- Working in partnership with Friends of Wymondley JMI School School (FOWS) to provide pupils with a school logo bookbag when they start at the school
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags, PE trainers and wellington boots
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different years/classes
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items for free and promoting the Swap Shop.
- 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 requirements

5. 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:

- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests
- 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 require this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is comfortable to them (although extreme hairstyles, as defined above in section 2.1, are not appropriate)
- Allow pupils/parents to request changes to uniform and swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves (and other religious or cultural symbols with the agreement of the Headteacher)

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the Teaching and Learning Committee.