

# LONG MEADOW SCHOOL

# SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY



Date of last review:	September 2023
Date of next review:	September 2026
Type of policy:	Non Statutory
Frequency of review:	Every 3 years
Governor committee:	Curriculum Committee

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## 1. Aims

This policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school;
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- identifies the children with the school;
- supports our commitment to inclusion;
- prevents children from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class;
- is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind;
- is considered good value for money by most parents;

We expect all pupils to comply with this uniform policy, which will be monitored. Any pupil who falls short of these requirements will be advised of this fact by their class teacher and given the opportunity to improve. Continued failure to comply will be brought to the attention of the Headteacher.

We as a school community have a commitment to promote equality. Therefore, an equality impact assessment has been undertaken and we believe this policy is in line with the Equality Act 2010 as it is fair, it does not prioritise or disadvantage any pupil and it helps to promote equality at this school.

## 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 Teacher, 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 that the majority of 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 any items with distinctive characteristics where possible for example, by only asking that the school sweatshirt/cardigan is the only item that we require to feature the school logo
- 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 optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- 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

##### Winter

- Jade sweatshirt or cardigan with School logo
- Dark grey trousers/skirt/pinafore dress
- Navy blue polo shirt

##### Summer(optional)

- Dark blue gingham dress

- Dark grey trousers/skirt/shorts/ pinafore dress

## PE

- Navy T shirt
- Navy shorts
- Black plimsolls / trainers
- Navy tracksuit bottoms
- Navy sweatshirt

LMS only requires the jade school sweatshirt/cardigan to have the school logo. The school logo is optional for all other items of school uniform

Children need an outdoor pair of sensible, plain black shoes to wear to school. These can be plain black trainers (without coloured logos/branding). High-heeled shoes or other unsuitable footwear must not be worn in school.

Make-up or jewellery must not be worn at school. Children with pierced ears may wear only one sleeper or stud in the lobe of each ear. These must be either taken out before school or by the child themselves within school before any PE lesson, this is to reduce/avoid the risk of injury. It is recommended that if your child wishes to have their ears pierced, this is done during the summer break.

### 4.2 Where to purchase it

- All of our uniform, both branded and unbranded can be purchased from

Maisies

<https://maisies-superstore.co.uk/>

60/64 Church Street

Wolverton

Milton Keynes

MK12 5JW

01908 313313

- Plain navy polo shirts, plain navy PE t-shirts and Plain navy sweatshirts can all be purchased from all our local High street retailers and supermarkets.
- Second hand uniform is available:
  - At nearly new sales arranged by PALs (our parent association) at specific events
  - The school also holds a stock of good quality key uniform elements onsite, these can be obtained through the school office for a small voluntary contribution

## 5. Expectations for our school community

### ●.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)

### ●.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:

- As clean as possible
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the headteacher (via the school office) 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 a member of the Senior Leadership Team

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 every year (or after a change to policy) by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by Governing Boards Resources Committee

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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