

Aspire, Believe - Together Achieve

School Uniform Policy

Date approved by committee	November 2022
Review Date	September 2023
Signed Chair of Committee	REPare
Signed Head Teacher	S.L. Slepped

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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 <u>Equality Act 2010</u> 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 Sarah Sheppard/Jasmine French, 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/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary e.g. one jumper/cardigan with a logo for whole school events and any others can be unbranded
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as PE T-shirts
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as unbranded supermarket 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 different year/class/
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items e.g. PTA monthly preloved uniform sales
- 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
- We will offer our Pupil Premium families £50.00 of school uniform per child each year to purchase from our school uniform providers Monkhouse

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

The school has a provider (Monkhouse) who will supply branded uniform. Families do not have to purchase branded uniform but please ensure that alternatives match the school colours as closely as possible.

Uniform

- Grey/ black/ dark blue trousers, skirt or pinafore
- White shirt or polo shirt.
- Blue sweatshirt or cardigan

- Grey/ black/ dark blue skirt, pinafore or trousers.
- Shorts or blue and white check dress in summer.
- Grey tights or white socks.
- Black shoes (no trainers or heels).

The school has a provider (Monkhouse) who will supply branded uniform. Families do not have to purchase branded uniform but please ensure that alternatives match the school colours as closely as possible.

Items from Home

 We also request that children do not bring in toys, games and other collectables from home as a matter of course.

PE Kit

- Named PE bag that can be kept in school.
- House colour t shirt or white T shirt plain,
- Black shorts or plain joggers for outdoor PE
- Trainers (for outdoor PE)
- No football kits or large logos to be worn

Jewellery

- Jewellery must not to be worn to school.
- Children with pierced ears may wear one small, plain stud earring in each ear but these must be removed for P.E. Parents are responsible for making sure their child can remove their own earrings – teachers will not do this.
- We request that parents wait until the six week summer holiday to have their child's ears
 pierced to allow appropriate time for healing. Where a child does have newly pierced ears they
 will be asked to cover these with a plaster for PE we request that parents provide the plasters
 on PE days.

Children not in Uniform

- The school is committed to working with families to ensure every child wears the correct uniform every day.
- We will speak or write to families where children come to school without the correct uniform.

Hair & Make-Up

 Hair below shoulder length should be tied back (for both girls and boys). This helps stop the spread of head lice which are common amongst primary age children.

- Hair accessories should be in keeping with the school colours and should be practical rather than for show.
- Excessively styled or gelled hair is not permitted in school.
- Mohicans haircuts are not permitted in school.
- Make-up and nail polish are not permitted in school.

4.2 Where to purchase it

For all branded and other items our school wear stockist is:

Monkhouse Schoolwear Specialists

Contact Details

Email:

web@monkhouse.com

Telephone number:

016104767216

Website:

https://www.monkhouse.com/

Unbranded items can be purchased in any high street retailer or supermarket.

Pre-loved uniform

 Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will arrange a second-hand uniform sale every month

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 this will be provided by school)

Pupils are also expected to contact Sarah Sheppard/Jasmine French 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 Sarah Sheppard/Jasmine French 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 the head teacher. 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 annually by the head teacher. At every review, it will be approved by Local Governing Body.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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