Maple Grove Primary School

Growing and learning together

School uniform policy

Approved by:	Full Governing body	**Date:** Summer term 2023	
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School uniform policy

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 to get in touch with the Head teacher, 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 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
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability

- 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 groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling 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

- ALL children are expected to wear Maple Grove uniform at all times including physical education wear.
- We expected children to wear the blue sweater shirt or cardigan with the school logo all other items the school logo is optional.
- We expect children to have a logoed P.E bag and logoed book bag. The book bag is given as a gift when a child starts our school.
- Please see guidelines attached.

Maple Grove Primary school — Uniform expectations

We are proud of our school uniform; please support us by following our uniform expectations.
We encourage all our children to wear our school uniform as it helps them to feel part of the school and ensures that the clothes they wear to school are practical for the purpose.
Please make sure all clothing is marked with your child's name. All our uniform including our fleeces are is available to buy from our online supplier www.schooltrends.co.uk who will deliver directly to your door or school.

Heads

Long hair should be tied back. Discreet hair accessories only. should be worn.

Religious headwear should be royal blue/black.

Sensible haircuts and hair styles appropriate for a g school environment.

Bodies—uniform,

Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo.

Blue school polo shirt with logo.

Grey or black, white ankle/long socks or tights.

Grey/black skirt/trousers or shorts. Nursery children may wear blue/grey or black tracksuit bottoms.

Shoes/smart trainers - black or darker colours - (no heels, strappy sandals or boots). Children need to be able to take their shoes on and off themselves.

Bodies— P.E kit

Blue shorts

Blue t-shirt.

Black/Blue joggings bottoms or leggings.

Black trainers/ plimsolls.

Blue tracksuit jumper.

One-piece swimming costume, swimming trunk or shorts and towel. Goggles if needed.

All P.E is to be named and in a bag also named.

Jewellery and watches

No jewellery, please - the only exception is plain stud earrings (which must be removed for PE lessons by children) and religious jewellery. Inexpensive plain small learning analogue watches are allowed at a parent's discretion and are the child's responsibility but must be removed for PE lessons.

Coats and hats

Waterproof coat complete with hood in school at all times. Waterproof coat complete with hood in school at all times. Warm coat for the colder weather as our playground is very exposed.

School sun hats (royal blue with school logo) are the preferred option but children can use ones from home as long as they are slogan free.

Other equipment

- Nursery children should use school book bags which are royal blue with the school logo.
- Y.R. to Y3 should use school book bags which are royal blue with the school logo. Please use only one novelty tag/keyring per book bag to help children identify their bag.
- Years Y4 to Y6 are welcome to use either the school or Rucksacks, but they must be a suitable size so that we can store bags in the space we have available, and we ask that they are plain with no branding; or adornments.
- School PE bags, royal blue with the school logo and string handles, should be used.
- Any water bottles with a sports cap to avoid spillages can be used. Lunch boxes are also to be a suitable size, and we ask that they are plain with no branding; or adornments.
- Wellington boots are to be kept in school for Y.R. and Y.R. only.
- A spare pair of clothes, including underwear, should be brought into school in a drawstring bag.
- We provide all stationery, so no pencil cases are required.
- All items should be named to be quickly returned if lost.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- All our uniform is available to buy from our online supplier www.schooltrends.co.uk.
- All other item can be purchase from high street retailer.
- Second - hand uniform is sold through our parent teacher association (PTA) who arrange second-hand uniform sale.

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 The Headteacherif 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 the Head teacher 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 head teacher 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. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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