Original Date Written	Latest Date Reviewed	Date for Review
July 2022	July 2026	July 2028

Marlborough St Mary's CE

Primary School

MARLBOROUGH
ST MARY'S
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Uniform Policy

Together we believe, learn and achieve

Introduction

This policy has been designed to align with the latest Government guidance on school uniforms, produced in November 2021. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside of normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our website.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- creates a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.

The exceptions to this rule are:

- ear-ring studs in pierced ears (1 per ear)
- small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or Sikh Kara

We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons. If earrings cannot be removed, then ear tape will be supplied.

The school advises parents who wish their children to have their ears pierced to do so at the beginning of the school holidays.

Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems e.g. diabetes or epilepsy.

Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children.

Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (No shorter than a number 2), extreme patterns 'V' styles, Mohican cuts, or dyed, tipped or dipped hair are also forbidden. Pupils with long hair should also tie it back for safety reasons.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Children's shoes should be black and formal/smart. We do however recognise that smart black trainers maybe appropriate for children to wear- especially if they are walking or cycling to school. The final decision on the appropriateness of footwear will always rest with the Headteacher or deputy Headteacher.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. The school strongly recommends that all uniform is named/labelled.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher, or in his absence a member of the Senior Leadership Team. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds or sensory, medical or emotional reasons, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

If parents are facing challenges supplying school uniform due to financial hardships, they should contact the Headteacher, deputy Headteacher or Pastoral team who will support them in sourcing appropriate uniform for their child/children.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the Headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

Uniform

The School Uniform is:

- grey trousers, skirt or shorts
- red sweatshirt or cardigan
- grey or black socks
- white polo shirt
- red and white gingham summer dress

Trousers and shorts worn in school for uniform must be appropriate uniform style material and 'cut', not sportswear or fashion styles.

Shirts, sweatshirts and cardigans are all available with the school logo. This is optional to ensure the uniform is affordable to all families.

The school PE kit is:

- white T-Shirt
- black or grey shorts
- black or grey tracksuit bottoms
- black, grey or red sweatshirt/hoodie
- daps or trainers

EYFS

In Nursery and Reception, we recognise that children spend a significant amount of time engaged in active, outdoor, and practical learning experiences. To ensure children are

comfortable and appropriately dressed for this style of learning, the uniform expectations for Nursery and Reception differ slightly from those in the rest of the school.

The uniform for children in Nursery and Reception is as follows:

- Black tracksuit bottoms, leggings, or shorts
- White T-shirt or polo shirt
- Red jumper

T-shirts, polo shirts, and jumpers are available with school branding if families wish to purchase them. However, in order to keep uniform costs affordable, there is no expectation for branded items to be worn.

Individual Exceptions

In line with the inclusive ethos of the school, we recognise that some children may find wearing certain aspects of the school uniform difficult due to sensory, medical, or emotional needs. In individual circumstances, the school may agree reasonable adjustments to uniform expectations where this is considered to be in the best interests of the child and supports our commitment to ensuring that every child is *safe, happy, and able to learn*.
Any decisions regarding adjustments to uniform expectations will be made at the discretion of the Headteacher or, in their absence, a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Financial Hardships

The school recognises the challenge for families in financing the correct school uniform therefore the school will work closely with the Friends of Marlborough St. Mary's Primary School to ensure second-hand uniform is readily available to purchase at a very inexpensive cost at regular intervals such as Parents' evenings.

Weather

At Marlborough St. Mary's Primary School, we want our children to be comfortable and safe. If weather extremes, such as hot and cold, indicate that altering the uniform (for example, wearing PE kit) might be sensible then we will inform parents via ClassDojo.

Other Items

The school strongly recommends that children have the following items:

- a bookbag (available via the school website)

The school also recommends children have:

- a small backpack
- a sun hat in the summer months (or when advised by teachers)
- a water bottle

Coats

Coats should be smart and practical. We recommend that coats are not expensive in case they suffer damage. If children walk or cycle home, then we strongly recommend that coats are bright and visible so children can be easily seen.