



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

September 2026-2027



School Uniform Policy

Reviewed: September 2026

Review Cycle: 3 years or sooner dependent on legislation and development plans

Contents

1. Aims
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
4. Expectations for school uniform
5. Expectations for our school community
6. Monitoring arrangements
7. Links to other policies

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 and the Human Rights Act 1998.
- 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 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 or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform, depending on their specific needs
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Head of School who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

The Moorland Federation recognise the pressures on everyone in the current climate with a recession and the rising costs of living. We also recognise we are in an areas with aspects of social mobility concerns and as such we do understand the financial burden our families may face especially with the prssures on all household budgets in the current climate. We are proud of our schools and uniform is recommended by the DfE but we also wish to ensure costs are kept low and that there are other options for uniform to be recycled and also affordable when purchased new.

The DfE strongly encourage schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

Our Federation 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 need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- ✓ Is available at a reasonable cost
- ✓ Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

In addition, we also take our commitment to sustainable materials and eco friendly materials seriously and as such liaise with the providers over cost effective options that also support our ethos for sustainability.

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of: 3 or fewer
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory 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 such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions

- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Details of our uniform:

- Each of our schools would like each pupil to have one branded jumper and one branded polo shirt (each school has plenty of clean and good quality second hand items often free of charge and available at open evenings for new parents)
- Book bags are branded, for some of our schools these are provided by the 'Friends of' PTA groups, all replacement ones parents/ carers need to purchase. For further details please contact your child's school directly.
- Trousers, dresses, skirts and polo shirts can all be unbranded
- Sensible footwear is encouraged (no heels or unsafe strappy sandals in summer) but there is no expectation of brand
- The school expectations for PE and swimming kit are not branded attire
- We have expect our pupils hairstyles to be respectful to all cultures and groups, we do not wish pupils to have slogans and or tramlines cut into their hair (taking into account the requirement described above to avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010)
- Many of our schools do have a school coat option but these do not have to be purchased and any sensible coat can be worn. No offensive slogans should be evident.
- We will let parents know when it is school photo days or key events if they wish for their children to wear their logo polo shirt/ jumper on that day.
- Badges for roles will be provided free. If they are lost we may require a donation for a new one.
- Although some pupils chose to wear summer pinafore dresses in the summer, and shorts, there is no expectation for the uniform to alter. On very hot days we may eradicate the need for uniform in place of cooler attire. On cold days we would expect our pupils to be warm and dry as per the safeguarding expectations.

4.2 Where to purchase or acquire uniform

Our parents and carers can obtain logo branded uniform from the following companies

Cutcombe & Exford: [Price & Buckland](#)

Dunster: [My Clothing](#)

St Dubricius: direct from the school

Langford Buville: direct from the school

Timberscombe: [Price & Buckland](#)

All Saints: [My Clothing](#)

Dulverton Junior: [My Clothing](#)

The rest can be purchased from widely from high street retailers.

- Information about our second-hand uniform: For nearly new uniform, please contact the school office. It is also available to view at purchase at various events throughout the year, including new parents' mornings.
- Friends of groups often organise these sales as part of their events, like advent fairs and can regularly be accessed from our school offices throughout the year.

4.3 Jewellery

Jewellery, particularly earrings, continues to be a cause of injury in PE and sport. Schools have a duty of care under the Health and Safety at Work etc. Act 1974 to protect pupils and others from foreseeable harm. Schools are required to manage risks in PE through suitable arrangements and safe practice. Physical Education is a statutory subject at Key Stage 1 and above, and safety controls must be in place during participation.

- All jewellery should be removed before PE and sporting activities
- Pupils should ideally not wear jewellery to school on PE days
- Staff must not remove or replace jewellery for pupils
- Schools should apply rules consistently to all pupils and activities

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 (where they are able – otherwise for parents/carers to do this) are also expected to contact their Head of School 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 their Head of School 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 of School if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Head of School following our behaviour policy, working with the Executive Head teacher as appropriate.

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 the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory guidance.

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, working through the finance committee 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 three years or sooner dependent on updates to legislation and school development by the Executive Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by Finance Committee and shared with the full board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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