



Uniform Policy

NEW MILLS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Updates	Committee	Date Approved	Min No.
	School Development	07/03/2022	SDC22/8
Update to Guidance advised to school bus and updated in document	FGB	31/03/2022	FGB22/10

We have updated this policy in line with the DfE's new statutory uniforms guidance. Schools are expected to be compliant with the majority of this guidance by September 2022; however, there are exceptions, including where a school needs to consult on a new uniform, where it is tied into a contract with a supplier and where a competitive tender must be run to set up a new uniform contract. All schools should be compliant by September 2023 where possible.

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Statement of intent

New Mills Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils and is affordable and the best value for money.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Tendering and Procurement Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's ['Cost of school uniforms'](#) guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

4. Equality principles

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender, and may wear any of the uniform items listed in the 'School uniform' section of this policy regardless of the legal sex recorded on the school's records. Transgender pupils are supported to access the uniform that best reflects their gender expression.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g., ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

5. Complaints and challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school will work with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

6. School uniform

The Every Day Active Uniform will be:

- Dark purple sweatshirt or cardigan. We are asking parents to include the logo so that the children look smart and have a strong sense of identity/belonging. This is a preference and is not mandatory.
- White polo shirt
- Black jogging bottoms, leggings, or shorts (tailored or cycling – not sports/football shorts).
- All bottoms must be plain black with no markings or logos.
- Footwear should be plain black with no markings or logos and must be sturdy enough for being active outdoors – no boots. They should be suitable for high impact PE activities, playtimes and being outside in all weathers – black, closed foot, cushioned shoes or trainers with a grip are recommended and in KS1 all footwear should be Velcro fastened.
- We are setting up an area to store wellingtons for use during Forest School sessions, as soon as this is ready, we will let you know and ask for named wellingtons to be brought in as and when required.

For parents who would like a wider choice, children can also wear the following:

- Black trousers, skirts or purple check dresses can also be worn except on PE days.

There will no longer be a school PE kit.

School Bags:

From September 2022 Reception children will be given a purple book bag which they can use all the way through school. Children in year 3 have the option to continue using the book bag or to purchase a bag no larger than: Height 38cm, width 28cm and depth 19cm. Bags need to be relatively small as storage spaces are tight and the fire service states that we mustn't block corridors.

7. Suppliers

The school does not designate specific suppliers for the school uniform and items are available from many supermarkets and other suppliers, including Headmasters in New Mills. The school logo can be added by Headmasters in New Mills onto a sweatshirt or cardigan – Headmasters have offered to add logos for a reduced rate for parents experiencing financial hardship. Speak to the school if you need further information or support.

Samples of these school uniform items from both a supermarket and Headmasters are available to inspect within the school.

From the summer term, sweatshirts and cardigans will be on sale from the school. These will have been sourced from a local supermarket. The school will not profit from these items. The school holds second-hand school uniforms for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the headteacher. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

8. Transition to new uniform

From September 2022, the new uniform will be in place. To enable families to recycle/reuse the current school uniform, the transition period will last for two years and all children to be wearing the new uniform by September 2024.

The school holds second-hand school uniforms for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the headteacher. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

The school will find alternative ways to recycle any current uniform so that no items are sent to landfill.

9. Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.

10. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years and the provision will be monitored by the chair of governors and the headteacher.

