

SODBURY VALE FEDERATION

School Uniform Policy - St John's Mead CE VC Primary School

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1 TABLE OF CONTENTS

2	<u>VERSION HISTORY</u>	1
3	<u>AIMS</u>	1
4	<u>OUR LEGAL DUTIES UNDER THE EQUALITY ACT 2010</u>	2
5	<u>LIMITING THE COST OF SCHOOL UNIFORM</u>	2
6	<u>EXPECTATIONS FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM</u>	3
6.1	OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM	3
6.2	WHERE TO PURCHASE IT	3
7	<u>EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY</u>	4
7.1	PUPILS	4
7.2	FAMILIES	4
7.3	STAFF	4
7.4	GOVERNORS	5
8	<u>MONITORING ARRANGMENTS</u>	5
9	<u>LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES</u>	5

2 VERSION HISTORY

Version Number	Reason for Issue	Date of Issue
01	Initial Issue For Federation	July 2026

3 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 all 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

4 OUR 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, sexual orientation, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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
- 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 families to get in touch with a member of the Senior Leadership team, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

5 LIMITING THE COST OF SCHOOL UNIFORM

Sodbury Vale Federation has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

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 therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for families

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary,
- Limit 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 pupils could also wear on non-school days.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/groups of pupils
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items
- 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
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

6 EXPECTATIONS FOR SCHOOL UNIFORM

6.1 OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM

Our school colours are navy and grey, and our recommended uniform is as follows:

- Navy jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt/fleece
- White shirt/blouse/polo shirt
- Grey trousers/shorts/skirt
- White/grey/black socks
- Black shoes (sensible and flat-heeled)
- Seasonal variations - blue and white dress

PE (note PE days pupils come into school wearing their PE kit)

- Navy t-shirt
- Navy or black shorts
- Trainers or daps
- Seasonal variations: joggers and tracksuit top in blue or grey for outdoor PE sessions in colder weather.

All clothing should be marked clearly with the child's name.

Ear studs and watches are the only form of jewellery allowed.

6.2 WHERE TO PURCHASE IT

All uniform items are available from local supermarkets and additionally if you would like to purchase any items of uniform with the school logo (e.g., navy uniform items and the white

polo shorts) these are available to order if you wanted from our suppliers of logo'd uniform – Monkhouse Schoolwear Specialists.

- **In person** – the Monkhouse School Uniform Shop in Yate (18 North Walk) now stock all items of St John's Mead uniform
- **Online** –
- **By phone** – 0161 476 7216
- **Delivery options** – to collect from St John's Mead (no charge) or delivery to home address (this is chargeable for orders up to £85, free delivery above this).

7 EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

7.1 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 a member of the Senior Leadership team if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics

7.2 FAMILIES

Families 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

Families are also expected to contact a member of the Senior Leadership team or SENDCo if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Families 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 federation will work closely with families to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

7.3 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 Executive Headteacher or Head of School if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by a member of the Senior Leadership team in line with our Positive Behaviour policy.

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.

7.4 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/carers, 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.

8 MONITORING ARRANGEMENTS

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Executive Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

9 LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy is linked to our:

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