

Medina Primary School



UNIFORM POLICY

Reviewed by	Governing Body	Authorised by	A McGarvey (Headteacher)
Last Review	March 2023	Date	March 2025
Next Review	September 2027	Review Cycle	Every 2 years
Signed by A McGarvey			

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.

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
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the school with any questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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. At Medina, we are very aware of the pressures of cost when it comes to school uniform. As a result, we have developed our approach to support all of our community.

Any branded item is entirely optional. If you do not want to buy branded items of uniform, non-branded items are readily available at leading supermarkets at a reasonable cost.

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 items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- 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
- 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
- Provide regular access to second hand uniforms

- 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.

Expectations for school uniform

Our uniform for the school is:

- Trousers – grey or black (plain, no embellishment)
- Skirt/Pinafore – grey or black (plain, no embellishment)
- Shirt/Polo Shirt – white or yellow
- Sweatshirts/Cardigans – jade (Medina branded available from School Trends)
- Dress (summer) – jade or yellow gingham
- Socks/Tights – grey or black (socks should be worn in all weathers)
- Shoes – black (sensible shoes must be worn at all times. It is inappropriate for children to wear high heeled shoes, unsupported open toed sandals, flip flops or crocs)
- PE Kit – black shorts or leggings; yellow t-shirt. Plimsolls or trainers must be worn outside, children will be barefoot for indoor PE
- No jewellery with the exception of stud earrings or items of a religious or cultural nature (we may ask for these items to be removed during certain PE sessions). This includes necklaces, bracelets and smart watches.

As all children will be wearing the same items of clothing, parents must ensure that all items are clearly labelled with the child's name.

Hair Styles

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Brightly coloured hair is not permitted. The Head Teacher will take each individual pupil's scenario into consideration. Long hair should be tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded. Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands are acceptable. Hair extensions are not permitted.

Make-up

Make-up is not permitted in school. This includes the use of fake nails and nail varnish.

Book bags

When your child first starts at Medina, we will give you a free book bag. If parents prefer, you can purchase a book bag online, via School Trends (see school website for further information).

Equality

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

Where to purchase uniform

School Uniform should be ordered online, directly from School Trends, by following the link:

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/MedinaPrimarySchoolPO63NH>

Alternatively please visit: www.schooltrends.co.uk

Simply go to the website address, then select 'Find My School' and follow the order instructions. There are no minimum order quantities and your uniform will be delivered directly to your chosen address. As well as our approved decorated school uniform, you are also able to order plain items such as trousers, skirts and shirts.

Other ordering information including sizes, delivery information and the returns procedure is also available online.

Expectations for our school community

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).

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 Headteacher 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.

Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Headteacher if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Class Teacher initially before being escalated.

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.

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.

Monitoring arrangements

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

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives
- Complaints policy