



Policy for **School Uniform**

Updated : October 2022

Contents

1. Aims	2
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform .	3
4. Expectations for school uniform	4
5. Where to purchase it.	5
6. Expectations for our school community	6
7. Monitoring arrangements	7
8. Links to other policies.	7
9. School Uniform Flyer	8

Introduction

We believe that having a uniform removes the distractions that come from children wearing different types of clothes, makes decisions about what to wear more straight forward for everyone and re-enforces the sense of purpose that every school needs.

1. Aims

- Whilst we place a high value on wearing proper school uniform, we do not believe that this should place a financial burden on any family, nor any child be shamed for not having proper uniform.
- We understand the need to employ an inclusive uniform policy that can be flexible enough to accommodate religious and gender requirements and to protect the needs of those who require them.
- We expect our parents and carers to support the school with our uniform policy by adhering to the framework provided and contacting the school should they need assistance in supplying the necessary items.

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

Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 contd

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 Mr McGrath, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. 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.

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:

- Ensuring that no branded items are deemed necessary but are available for parents if desired.
- Ensuring that the uniform colours are those which are commonly available in supermarkets
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities

Limiting the cost of school uniform contd

Providing a School Uniform Recycling area where parents can acquire all elements of the uniform.

Providing pupils with school branded t-shirts for interschool sports competitions

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

4. Expectations for School Uniform.

The image (right) shows our school uniform expectations. Although we do offer Malin Bridge branded polo shirts, jumpers and cardigans through Logo Lesurewear, we do not stipulate any requirements for branded items to worn.

We do not have gender specific uniform requirements and accommodations can be made for changes requested through religious needs.

Any coats and bags are acceptable so long as any slogans on either are not in breach of our other policies.

Jewellery should be kept to

SCHOOL UNIFORM

THIS IS A GUIDE TO MALIN BRIDGE PRIMARY'S SCHOOL UNIFORM
PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU ARE WEARING THE CORRECT SCHOOL UNIFORM EVERY DAY

IF THE WEATHER IS APPROPRIATE, BLUE AND WHITE SCHOOL STYLE (CHECKED) SUMMER DRESSES CAN BE WORN

LIGHT BLUE, NAVY OR WHITE POLO SHIRT
WHITE OR LIGHT BLUE SHIRT
NAVY BLUE JUMPER OR CARDIGAN
(PLAIN OR WITH THE SCHOOL LOGO - NO HOODS)

TRAINERS OR SCHOOL SHOES
PREDOMINANTLY BLACK IN COLOUR

BLACK OR DARK GREY TROUSERS,
JOGGING BOTTOMS, SKIRT OR PINAFORE DRESS
NAVY BLUE SMART TROUSERS OR SKIRT
NAVY, BLACK OR DARK GREY TIGHTS OR LEGGINGS
IF THE WEATHER IS SUITABLE, BLACK OR
DARK GREY SHORTS CAN ALSO
BE WORN

PE KIT

CHILDREN WILL COME TO SCHOOL IN THE PE KIT SCHOOL UNIFORM ON THEIR PE DAYS

NAVY BLUE JUMPER (SCHOOL LOGO OR NO LOGO)
LIGHT BLUE, NAVY OR WHITE POLO SHIRT (MUST HAVE A COLLAR)
BLACK OR DARK GREY LEGGINGS
BLACK OR DARK GREY JOGGING BOTTOMS OR TRACKSUIT BOTTOMS (AVOID BRAND LOGOS AND OTHER COLOURS)
BLACK OR DARK GREY SHORTS IF THE WEATHER IS WARM
BLACK TRAINERS (PREDOMINATELY BLACK)

Expectations for School Uniform contd

a minimum, especially on PE and swimming days where removal could lead to loss.

There is no uniform for school swimming but well fitted one piece swimsuits and fitted swimming trunks are advised for modesty. Swim shirts/rash vests may also be worn for comfort and modesty.

Malin Bridge does not have a policy regarding hair length, style or colour, requiring only that long hair be tied back for PE and swimming for health and safety reasons.

5. Where to Purchase Uniform

Malin Bridge branded uniform can be bought from Logo Leisurewear online. All non branded items can be purchased inexpensively through major supermarket chains such as Asda, Tesco and Sainsburys and high street retailers such as Matalan and Marks and Spencer.

We also accept donations of lightly used second hand uniform (branded and non branded) which is sorted and made available to all parents/ carers free of charge in our Uniform Recycling space on the ground floor of Junior building.

6. Expectations for our school community

6.1 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 Mr McGrath in the Head's office if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

Expectations for our school community contd

6.2 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 Mr McGrath through the school office 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.

6.3 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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Mr McGrath

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.

6.4 Governors

The governing body 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 governing body 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.

7. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually by Charlotte Marsh, Data and Communications officer. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

8. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

Behaviour policy

Equality information and objectives statement

Anti-bullying policy

Complaints policy

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