

# St Mary's C.E. Primary and Nursery School



## Uniform Policy

*Growing together, learning together*

### **Monitoring and Review**

It is the responsibility of our Governing Body to agree and monitor our policies. The Curriculum and Standards Team has this responsibility, though the day to day management of it is devolved to the Head Teacher.

As with all our policies, this was developed following a period of practice and consultation before being presented for Governors' consideration.

*R Kendrew-Jones*

### **Mission Statement**

*'Here at St Mary's Church of England Primary School, through our Christian values, we aspire to nurture and educate the whole child: caring for their well-being, celebrating their individual talents and abilities whilst encouraging them to become lifelong learners. It is our aim that children, parents/carers and school staff should work together towards this end.'*

### **Equal Opportunities**

At Tickhill St Mary's School we are committed to giving all our children every opportunity to achieve the highest of standards. We acknowledge the right of every individual to be treated fairly, with respect and to their individual needs regardless of appearance, age, race, gender identity, background, creed, attainment, ability or sexual orientation. We aim to fulfil this ideal through our policies and practice.

### **Christian Ethos**

Tickhill St Mary's School is a Church of England School and, as such, we ensure that the Christian ethos is central to all our policies and practice.

### **Safeguarding Statement**

St Mary's Primary School is committed to safeguarding the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff to adhere to this commitment.

### **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
- 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 age, sex, 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 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable

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- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- 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 parents/carers to get in touch with Mrs Kendrew-Jones, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

### 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 (DfE) 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 or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' 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 any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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
- 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house 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
- 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 the policy

### 4. Expectations for school uniform

#### 4.1 Our school's uniform

### **Uniform**

The school operates a full uniform policy for pupils. The school colours are royal blue sweatshirts or cardigan, white polo shirt and grey trousers or skirt. Blue and white gingham dresses may also be worn in the summer. There is no requirement for items to be branded, therefore uniform may be purchased wherever is the best value for money.

### **PE uniform**

All children wear a plain white t shirt and plain black shorts. No footwear is required for indoor PE. Children in KS2 (Y3-6) may wear a plain tracksuit/jogging suit for winter games, preferably black, blue or grey. They will need a pair of trainers for outdoor games. All children are expected to keep their kit in school during the week and will therefore require a drawstring bag or similar.

### **Forest School**

Children will need a change of trousers, a warm, waterproof coat and suitable footwear, especially during the colder and wetter months and a labelled water bottle, hat and sun cream in the warmer/sunnier months. Joggers or an old tracksuit/leggings together with wellies, walking boots/shoes or old trainers are recommended.

## **4.2 Where to purchase it**

There is no requirement for uniform to be branded with the school logo, therefore, parents/carer may seek to purchase through local retailers for the best value for money. However, parents/carer can order and pay for branded school uniform online from School Trends by following the link below:

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/TickhillStMarysCEPrimaryNurserySchoolDN119LZ>

Alternatively, visit [www.schooltrends.co.uk](http://www.schooltrends.co.uk)

Simply go to the website address, then select 'Find My School' (Tickhill St Mary's) 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.

Please note that if you wish to order a school PE bag or school Book Bag, these can only be ordered via the school office, as they need to be ordered in bulk. The price of a PE bag and Book Bag is £6.00 per item.

We will keep a small supply of uniform in the school office should you wish to try.

## **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:

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- 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 Mrs Kendrew-Jones 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/carers are also expected to contact Mrs Kendrew-Jones 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/carers 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/carers 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 headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

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.

## 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/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils