

# Middleton School



## School Uniform Policy

Reviews- Autumn 2024

Ratified by Governing Body - Autumn 2024

Due for review – Autumn 2026

**'Learning for Life'**

## **Aims of the Policy:**

The Middleton School Uniform 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

## **What is the purpose of a school uniform?**

- To promote the ethos of the school
- To provide a sense of pride, belonging and community
- To identify children who attend the school
- To support our policy on inclusion
- To be practical, smart and conducive to a successful learning environment; including activity appropriate attire such as sports clothing.
- To promote positive health and safety outcomes.
- To be affordable and accessible to families.

## **Legal Framework**

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

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

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

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE ( updated November 2021) 'School Uniform guidance'

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Accessibility policy
- Complaints Policy

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

**The Governing Body** is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Head Teacher and school community, establishing a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against. ( In accordance with the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010)
- Taking into account key considerations such as safeguarding requirements and the health and safety of pupils.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

**The Head Teacher** is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.
- Understanding the specific special needs of individual pupils and making reasonable adjustments to the policy and uniform expectations as appropriate.

**Teaching and support staff** are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy wherever possible.
- Taking appropriate action and communicating with line managers, parents and carers when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to establish school identity, to remain safe.
- Assisting pupils with SEN and sensory needs to tolerate wearing elements of a school uniform and understanding the need to dress accordingly to remain safe.

**Parents/carers** are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Head Teacher 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.
- Ensuring that articles of uniform and clothing and identifiable/ marked with their child's name.

**Pupils** are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform wherever possible, unless the Head Teacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging.

### **Cost and Availability**

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, Middleton School ensures that the School Uniform Policy does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child. 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 pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers. The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible. The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements. The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms. Where changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

In addition, the school acquires donated 'second hand' uniform. Uniform which is in good condition is washed and then made available to families in need.

## **Religious Clothing**

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community. Middleton School endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible. Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Head Teacher and Governing Body.

## **Discrimination**

The uniform policy at Middleton School is inclusive and does not discriminate against gender or protected characteristics.

Reasonable adjustments to expectations with regard to uniform will always be considered and this is particularly pertinent as our pupils have a range of special educational needs.

## **Complaints and Challenges**

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, and in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy. To make a complaint, parents/carers should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined. When a complaint is received, the school works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

PLEASE SEE APPENDIX (I) FOR A LIST OF SCHOOL UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS AT MIDDLETON SCHOOL

## UNIFORM RULES

### COMPULSORY

- Blue official polo top with Middleton Logo
- Blue official sweatshirt/cardigan with Middleton Logo
- Grey trousers / skirt / dress (grey shorts and blue checked summer dress are permitted in summer months)
- Black shoes
- A sensible and appropriate coat
- White t-shirt and blue shorts for PE
- A woolly hat / sun hat for extreme weather

### OPTIONAL EXTRAS

- Waterproof coat with Middleton Logo
- PE t-shirt with Middleton Logo
- Blue PE shorts
- Blue PE bag
- Woolly hat with Middleton logo
- Base ball cap with Middleton logo
- Book bag with Middleton logo

### NOT PERMITTED

- No high heeled shoes
- No jewellery (piercings should be safe, subtle and discreet)
- No false nails / eyelashes

## SUPPLIERS

Uniform is stocked in school and can be ordered online via the school gateway, or by filling in a form (found on website) and paying in cash. The school aim to send home uniform with pupil within 24 hours of receiving an order, stock permitting. When out of stock, an order will be placed with our supplier (Price and Buckland) and sent home as soon as new stock is received.

