



Chipping Sodbury School

School Uniform Policy

Approved by	Local Governing Board (LGB)
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Linked policies	Behaviour Procedure Equality information and objectives statement Anti-bullying Procedure Complaints Policy

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1. Aims

We believe that an appropriate school uniform can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of our school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education
- supports students in accessing the curriculum and assisting with matters of health and safety

By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes.

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 sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all students 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 are equitable for students
- Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all students to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher, 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. Support to purchase uniform is always available where there is a need.

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:

- Always offering to purchase key items of uniform for a student should there be the need and signposting parents/carers to sources of additional support including the Local Authority
- Carefully considering the number of items of clothing with the school badge or school colours
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible whilst maintaining the integrity of the overall dress code
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Working with the school uniform provider to check for quality to ensure sustainability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items students 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/house groups which are compulsory
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities which are compulsory
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions including badges

- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and students 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

Trousers or Skirt**	Both skirts and trousers will be black and must have the school logo/crest on them. These can only be purchased from Monkhouse Schoolwear. Black tailored shorts with the school logo/crest can be worn in terms 1, 5 and 6 only. Purchased from Monkhouse Schoolwear. Shorts are optional. No other shorts or cropped trousers, black jeans, leggings or “skinny” trousers will be acceptable. (Tracksuit, denim, corduroy or pin-striped materials are not allowed)
Shirt	Plain white, long or short sleeves. Regular collar. Summer white badged polo option was withdrawn at the end of summer 2020.
Tie**	School tie. This must be worn at all times when wearing a collared shirt.
Jumper**	V-Necked, navy blue with school crest, must be worn during terms 1-4.
Tights	Black tights may be worn with skirts in place of socks. Tights and socks together are not allowed.
Socks	Navy blue or black.
Coat	Sensible waterproof coat. Hoodies and denim jackets are not allowed.
Shoes	Plain black, durable, flat-heeled footwear, no canvas.
Jewellery	Limited to a wristwatch and one stud earring per ear and, in line with Local Authority guidelines, to be removed during Physical Education lessons. No body piercings of any kind are permitted to be worn – they must always be removed in school.
Sixth Form	Sixth Form students are not required to wear school uniform, but are expected to dress smartly and set a high standard as an example to the rest of the school.
Hair	Natural hair colour only.

PE Kit	Navy blue crested polo shirt** Navy blue and red PE socks** Navy blue plain shorts Trainers suitable for hard court, astro and sports centre (no Plimsolls) Shin pads and mouth guards for hockey/rugby Football boots, for cross country and extra-curricular football matches (optional) Long-sleeved navy blue plain base layer (optional) Navy blue crested tracksuit bottoms (optional) C.S.S leggings (optional) Navy blue PE sweatshirt with the school logo (optional)
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**These are branded items which are compulsory.

None branded items can be purchase from clothing outlets other than Monkhouse.

4.2 Where to purchase it

All new branded items may be purchased at

Monkhouse

Unit A4 Badminton Centre

Station Road

Yate

BS37 5HT, Tel. 01454 323779

Or on-line at <https://www.monkhouse.com/c/3932/Chipping-Sodbury>

Second hand uniform can be purchased at the school.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Students 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)

Students are also expected to contact the Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher (Student Engagement) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents/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 the Headteacher or Deputy 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/carers

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.

South Gloucestershire council provides, in exceptional circumstances, an essential school clothing grant to help parents on low incomes purchase school clothes for their child/children. The details can be found [here](#). There is also a school uniform exchange arranged by South Gloucestershire council, those details can be found [here](#).

5.3 Staff

Tutors will closely monitor students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the relevant Head of House if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Behaviour Policy and Procedures.

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 Local Governing Board (LGB) 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 students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

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 re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.