



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

MIDDLEWICH HIGH SCHOOL

Last Reviewed September 2023

Amended: September 2023

Approved: Headteacher September 2023

Next review date: July 2024

Document Control Information	
Document ID	MHS.UNIFORM01
Document title	MHS School Uniform Policy
Version	1.1
Status	Approved
Author	Mark Edwards
Publication date	February 2022
Next review date	July 2024

Version History			
Version	Date	Detail	Author
1.0	February 2022	Initial	Mark Edwards (MED)
1.1	September 2023	Review	Sarah Colclough (SCO)

Approvals	
Approver	Date
Headteacher	17/03/2022
Headteacher	02/11/2023

Contents

Statement of Intent	4
Legal Framework	4
Key Personnel in Relation to this Policy	4
Roles and Responsibilities	5
Governing Board	5
Head Teacher	5
Teaching and Support Staff	5
Parents/Carers	5
Students	5
Cost and Availability	6
Religious Clothing	6
Equality	6
School Uniform Supplier	7
Jewellery, Nails and Hairstyles	7
Our PE Kit	7
Forest School Clothing	7
School Bag	8
Water Bottle	8
Adverse Weather	9
Hot Weather	9
Cold Weather	9
Labelling	9

Statement of Intent

We are proud of our students and the pride they take in wearing our uniform. It is important that our students feel a sense of belonging to our school. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance.

We also believe it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

Middlewich High School is committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background. This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart.

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 (2013) 'School Uniform'
- Cost of School Uniform Guidance DfE 2021

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

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

Key Personnel in Relation to this Policy

Role(s)
Chair of Governors
Head Teacher
Deputy Head Teacher

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board 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.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, students 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 student 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 students with reasonable adjustments as appropriate e.g. for a student who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.
- Ensuring uniform is sustainable for the environment, including the provision of good quality second hand uniform items.
- Tender for uniform renewal contracts every 5 years.
- Limiting branded uniform items to allow purchase of generic clothing e.g. socks, trousers, shirts
- Providing assistance for families in need of uniform e.g. Students in receipt of student premium funding

Teaching and Support Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that students dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Taking appropriate action when students are in breach of this policy using the green card system.
- Ensuring that students understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to encourage a sense of belonging.

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 any reasonable adjustments to the uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Students are responsible for:

- Being ready and wearing the correct uniform at all times.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging

Students who refuse to conform to the school's Uniform Policy will be sanctioned in accordance with our Behaviour Policy.

Cost and Availability

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, Middlewich High 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 2022 recommendations on costs and value for money.

Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective students, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers as advised on the school website.

The school tenders' suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible and the school does not support school profit income from uniform sales internally e.g. ties.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and students 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.

Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear

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 students against the health and safety concerns of the entire school community.

Middlewich High School endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met, wherever possible. Governors have adopted a policy for the wearing of Ceremonial Wear. Please make an appointment with the Head / Deputy to discuss the policy and to make any requests for Ceremonial wear to be worn in school.

Parents'/Carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by- case basis by the Head Teacher and Governing Board. This is always conducted in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

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 gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

School Uniform Supplier

Our school uniform supplier is:

<https://www.swischoolwear.co.uk/>

Main Telephone: [01928 752 610](tel:01928752610)

We are proud of our school uniform which consists of:

Compulsory Items:

- School blazer
- School tie
- House badge
- White shirt
- Black trousers – tailored in style and not jeans or skinny fit. Leggings are not allowed.
- Black tights or black/white socks (below the knee).
- Black shoes – black sensible shoes (not boots, trainers, canvas or Converse shoes). No dangerous high heels or canvas footwear will be allowed. It should be noted that reasonably-robust school shoes are desirable for safety reasons.
- School backpack

Optional:

- School skirt (Branded from SWI)
- School jumper (Branded from SWI or plain black V neck) which does not replace the blazer but can be worn underneath it. No other jumpers or sweatshirts are permitted.

Jewellery, Nails and Hairstyles

It is not appropriate to wear make-up or nail varnish at school. Acrylic nails are not permitted and if worn present a safety risk.

Extremes of hairstyle or hair colour are inappropriate for school and will be deemed unacceptable. It is not appropriate to wear make-up (including eyelash extensions) or nail varnish at school.

Students will only be permitted to wear one plain stud in each ear lobe and a watch. Any jewellery worn (apart from one earring in each lobe) will be confiscated and returned to students at the end of the day.

Nose studs, ear stretchers/tunnels or other body piercings are not permitted at school

PE Kit

Students must wear a school T-shirt, school socks (below the knee) and a choice of bottoms from the following range from our supplier:

- Shorts, skort, leggings, tracksuit bottoms; any girls representing the school must wear a skort.
- Students may wish to purchase the half zip top for cold weather.
- All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons and sporting events.

Forest School Clothing

There may be occasions where students are required to wear additional items of clothing for safe working in Forest School.

Forest School clothing is as follows:

- Waterproof coat (or waterproof jacket in warmer weather)
- Comfortable tracksuit bottoms or leggings (not shorts)
- Long-sleeved top
- Wellington boots or old trainers
- Appropriate hat for the weather
- Scarf and gloves (in colder weather)

School Bag

Students must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books (A4 size) and equipment. School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

Water Bottle

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children at break times.

Hot Weather

Students should be wearing:

- Sunscreen (children must be able to apply this)
- Hat e.g. for sports day should be neutral.

At the discretion of the Head Teacher uniform may be flexible e.g. no blazers, no ties.

Weather

During cold weather, students are required to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside. Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted if not visible. During wet weather, students should bring a waterproof coat with a hood.

The school has heating during cold weather and outside coats are to be removed before entering the building. A teacher may use discretion for coats in classrooms when ensuring adequate

ventilation.

Labelling

School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated lockers for children to keep belongings in. All clothing should be labelled.

Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the student and not the school.

If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher.

Any lost clothing is stored in lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

Appendix 1 – Quick Reference Guide to School Shoes

<https://www.mhs.school/page/?title=School+Shoes&pid=233>