Cleobury Mortimer Primary School

The Shropshire Gateway Educational Trust

School Uniform Policy

September 2026

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours.

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- supports positive behaviour and discipline
- is practical and smart
- encourages identity with the school
- prevents children coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition
- is suitable and offers good value for money for parents and carers

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
- Avoid any peer pressure over uniform, branding, accessories which makes children/parents feel pressured to be buying or wearing certain things.

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, gender reassignment and disability. 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 are closely matched for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (although we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back and ask that hair bands, ribbons, bowls and slides should match school colours)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel comfortable - please note that 'extreme' hairstyles are not permitted in school (see section 4.2)
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- 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 contact the 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, and 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:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability. For example, similar, non-branded alternatives can be bought in place of a branded item (e.g. plain blue PE bag)
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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 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

- White cotton uniform shirt with a collar suitable for wearing with a tie
- School tie
- Royal blue v-neck jumper or cardigan
- Grey skirt/pinafore/trousers or shorts
- White plain knee length socks or navy/grey plain tights with a skirt or dark plain socks with shorts or trousers
- A waterproof coat (no hoodies or tracksuit tops please)
- School shoes which should be black and smartly kept.

Exception: To enable our youngest pupils to change for PE more easily, children in reception can wear a pale blue polo shirt all year (in place of the shirt and tie).

Skirts need to be an appropriate length and style which allow children to sit comfortably on the floor. Shorts need to be an appropriate length to allow for comfort.

In the summer term, pupils may optionally wear:

- Blue and white checked or striped school dress
- Pale blue polo shirt

The children are required to change for P.E. and will need:

- Royal blue shorts
- White, plain PE shirt
- Black or grey tracksuit for cold weather
- Black plimsolls (KS1 only)
- Black or white trainers
- Shinpads (from Year 3)
- PE kitbag (with child's name)

Children who arrive in school wearing non-uniform items will be loaned an item from shareduniform for the day. The same system will apply for children who do not have PE kit. Children who come to school with their hair loose, will be loaned a 'bobble' to tie it up.

4.2 Hairstyles, jewellery, make-up and nail varnish

For health and safety reasons, jewellery must not be worn with the exception of one pair of plain, small stud earrings and a watch. Children have to remove these items for PE and are responsible for their safe keeping. Please note that staff are not allowed to remove earrings and children will need to do this themselves.

Long hair has to be tied back. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted in school. Hair bands, ribbons, bows, and slides should be school colours. Children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have coloured or dyed hair.

Pupils should not wear make-up or nail varnish to school.

4.3 Where to purchase it

There is no expectation for children to wear clothing with the school logo and all items can be purchased from most 'high street' retailers. Where parents would like branded items these are available for purchase from Bristows Club & School Supplies in Bridgnorth and are available to order online: http://shop.schooluniformfactory.co.uk/

At the end of each year we do a uniform exchange. We are happy to organize this more regularly if parents would like to help organise this.

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:

- 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 the Headteacher, 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 are also expected to contact the 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 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.

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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Headteacher.

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

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 avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy