

Mercenfeld

Primary School



Uniform Policy

March 2026

Written	September 2023
Frequency of Review	Annual
Written by	Lindsay Weatherill (Deputy Head)
Approved by	Local Advisory Board
Updated	March 2026
Updated by	Kirstie Randle

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. **Mercenfeld Primary School's duties under The Equality Act 2010**

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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- 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 get in touch with Mrs Randle (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.

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
- 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
- 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 Mercenfeld Primary School's uniform

Item	Guidance
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White or red polo shirts or blouse (plain or with the school logo embroidered on them) 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red sweatshirt or cardigan - with or without the school's logo embroidered on them 	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black or grey trousers • Black or grey knee length skirts or pinafore dresses. 	<p>We do not allow jeans, leggings, combat trousers, low waisted trousers.</p> <p>Items should be made of standard school trouser fabric.</p>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Practical, low heeled, plain black shoes or trainers. 	<p>No sandals, high heels, wellingtons (unless requested by the class teacher), doc-martins.</p> <p>The soles of all shoes/boots must be black. In winter months boots should be changed on arrival at school.</p>
<p>Summer Uniform</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Red checked dress • Red checked short playsuit • Grey or black knee-length shorts 	
<p>PE kit</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Plain white round neck T-shirt with or without the school logo (no other logos). • Black shorts or skorts (for indoor PE and outdoor in summer) • Black leggings or jogging bottoms • A pair of black, rubber-soled plimsolls • Inexpensive pair of plain black trainers • Long hair should be tied back 	<p>Items should be plain or have the school logo. Other logos are not permitted.</p> <p>Football kits are not permitted.</p>
<p>Additional Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do not allow false nails due to health and safety. • Earrings need to be stud earrings 	<p>Children will need to be able to remove their earrings for PE lessons independently.</p>

4.2 Where to purchase uniform

For branded items:

School Uniform

Online

School Trends

<https://www.schooltrends.co.uk/uniform/MercenfeldPrimarySchoolLE679WG>

PE Kit

Liss Sports

<https://www.lissport.co.uk/mercenfeld>

Second Hand Uniform

There are sales of second-hand uniform on a regular basis at the local library. If you are interested in second hand uniform at other times, please contact the school office.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out of school events or trips that are organized 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/Carers

It is our expectation that parents/carers ensure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit and that every item is clearly labelled with their child's name.

Parents are expected to contact Mrs Randle if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

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 sanctions as outlined in our behaviour policy.

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
- Considers 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 annually by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by Local Advisory Board.