



## **Uniform Policy**

MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL  
UNIFORM POLICY  
ADOPTION AND AMENDMENTS TO UNIFORM POLICY

Section	Governors' Meeting or Committee
Whole Document	LGB, 13 <sup>th</sup> March 2023

# MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL

## UNIFORM POLICY

### 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

It is our aim at Middleton School to bring each individual to their full potential in a school atmosphere of harmony and shared community values. All children are expected to arrive for school smartly dressed in the correct uniform.

### 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 children 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 children
- Allow all children to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all children to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow children to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow children to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols

### 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

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## MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items children 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 leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions (such as sports days)
- 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 children on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

### Expectations for school uniform

Children 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

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## MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

### Our School Uniform

The items listed below are for all year groups from Foundation through to Year 6.

- Gold polo shirt with or without Middleton Primary School logo\*
- Grey tailored trousers / skirt
- Bottle Green sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece with or without Middleton Primary School logo \*
- Bottle Green checked summer dress
- Grey school shorts
- Plain black tights or white socks with skirts
- Plain black socks with trousers
- Sensible flat black shoes (no logos/branding, trainers, trainer type shoes, canvas shoes/pumps or similar allowed)

\*Items with the Middleton logo must be purchased from either of our preferred suppliers (Price and Buckland or Kedaph)

### Jewellery and Hair - Applicable to all year groups

- Jewellery and make-up is not permitted with the exception of a watch
- Children with pierced ears may wear one sleeper or stud in the lobe of each ear. These must be taken out or covered with micropore tape (supplied from home) for PE lessons or any sporting activity
- Items of religious jewellery must be discussed with the Deputy Head or Headteacher
- Hairstyles need to be appropriate for school. Extreme hairstyles are not permitted, these include:
  - ✓ Not too short, nor too long, a "number 2" is the minimum acceptable in terms of length;
  - ✓ Artwork on the scalp or eyebrows is regarded as a fashion extreme and is therefore not permitted;
  - ✓ Hair should be one tone;
  - ✓ Hair bands and head scarves should be strictly functional and bottle green, black or white.

## MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

### PE KIT - Applicable to all year groups

- Black or Navy blue shorts
- Plain bottle green T shirt with or without Middleton Primary School logo\*
- Suitable trainers for outdoors PE (indoors PE will be done in bare feet)
- A plain (without slogans or brand names) navy or black tracksuit may be worn during the winter months for outdoor sports
- For safety reasons, we don't allow tops with hoods to be worn during PE lessons.
- No jewellery of any type may be worn in PE or Games. Sleeper or Stud earrings must be taken out or covered with micropore tape (supplied from home) for PE lessons or any sporting activity.

\*Items with the Middleton logo must be purchased from either of our preferred suppliers (Price and Buckland or Kedaph)

### Additional Items (compulsory)

- Book bag with school logo (can be purchased from Price and Buckland or Kedaph)

### Additional Items (optional)

- Water bottles

### Where to purchase school uniform

#### Clothing Supplier

Middleton's two named outfitters in the school year 2022/23 are Price and Buckland and Kedaph - these are the only suppliers for items with the Middleton logo.

#### High Street/Supermarket retailers

For items without the Middleton logo, school uniform in Middleton colours can be purchased at a range of high street or supermarket retailers.

### Second-hand Uniform

Alongside Friends of Middleton (our parent teacher association), we regularly (termly) run a uniform exchange for parents/carers who would like to access second-hand uniform. This can help to reduce uniform costs while

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## MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

also improving sustainability by extending the life of garments. For further information on the dates of these exchanges please contact the school office.

### **Parents and Carers**

- We appreciate parents' support in ensuring children arrive at school smartly dressed in their appropriate school uniform.
- 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 head teacher 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 policyThe school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome

### **Staff**

Staff will closely monitor children to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any children and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the head teacher if the situation doesn't improve. Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with following the school's behaviour policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a child not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

## MIDDLETON PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

### **Governors**

The local governing body 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 children
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all children

The local governing body 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.

### **Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Local Governing Body.

Adopted by the Local Governing Body  
March 2023