

St Mary's Bryanston Square CE Primary School



School Uniform Policy July 2026

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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. 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 pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that they feel most comfortable wearing and which supports the school's inclusive approach.
- 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 the school office (0203 146 0968 or office@stmbs.org.uk) 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.

The school will ensure compulsory branded items remain to the minimum necessary to maintain school identity and affordability. The school will regularly review whether any branded items remain necessary.

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 for example, by only asking that the jumper, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties or school bags
- 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 pupils 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/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

Our school's uniform

We are proud of our school uniform and set expectations for pupils within school to be wearing the correct items. These are listed below:

School branded items required:

- School sweatshirt (with logo) – priced from £11.05 or
- School cardigan (with logo) – priced from £12.15

- School tie (blue and yellow) - £3.10

The following branded items are optional:

- White polo t-shirt (with logo) – priced from £7.25
- School jacket/coat (with logo) – priced £21.15
- Book bag (with logo) – priced £6.90
- Infant rucksack (with logo) – priced £11.40
- Junior rucksack (with logo) – priced £ 12.72

The following items can be non-branded and purchased from any appropriate store:

- White polo t-shirt or shirt
- Black or grey trousers or shorts
- Blue and white summer dresses

Uniform expectations for PE are as follows:

- Plain white t-shirt
- Blue or black shorts or jogging bottoms
- Black plimsolls or trainers

For swimming

- Swimming costume or swimming shorts/trunks
- Swimming cap
- Goggles
- Towel

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn unless required for religious observance or otherwise agreed by the school.

Footwear

Children are expected to come to school in black shoes, without requiring specific brands or styles. Children may bring in a pair of trainers to swap for playtimes.

It is recommended for children in the Early Years (Reception & Nursery) to wear velcro strapped shoes for ease of putting on and taking off.

Variation to uniform (seasonal)

Summer dresses and shorts can be worn from April to October.

Where to purchase our uniform:

For branded items parents can purchase this from the following school approved provider:

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

For non branded items, parents can use any outlet for these items, as long as the item is in line with school expectations, i.e. – plain white t-shirt means no logos or other colours.

The school actively supports access to affordable second-hand uniform. Information about availability, collection arrangements, purchasing opportunities and contact details will be published on the school website and communicated regularly to parents. Our parent group, Friends of St Mary's Association (FoSMA) manage and support this process for the school.

5. Expectations for our school community

Pupils

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

- On the school premises
- 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.

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.

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 a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Where families experience financial hardship, the school will work sensitively with parents and carers to identify practical solutions and avoid pupils being disadvantaged.

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 governing board will regularly review supplier arrangements and ensure they represent best value for families, balancing affordability, quality, accessibility and administrative practicality.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually, or sooner where DfE guidance changes. At every review, it will be approved by the Full Governing Body.