

Melling Primary School



Uniform Policy

Review schedule	
Policy ratified	Sept 2025
Date for next review	Sept 2029

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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 most reflects their self-identified gender**
- **Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils**
- **Allow all pupils to have long hair (although all long hair must 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 as age appropriate.**

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:

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- 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
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, plain alternatives, 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 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 our school community

4.1 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)

4.2 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

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- 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 or 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.

4.3 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 school's Senior Leadership Team.

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.

4.4 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.

5. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years. At every review, it will be approved by the Governing Body.

6. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

RECEPTION CLASS UNIFORM

In order to foster an identity and sense of belonging children are required to wear school uniform at Melling Primary School. The reception uniform is designed to be practical and comfortable.

	BADGED UNIFORM (Melling school logo)		PLAIN UNIFORM	FOOTWEAR
ALL RECEPTION CHILDREN	Pale blue polo shirt Navy sweatshirt or cardigan <i>Available from Kids Kirkby</i>		Plain navy jogging pants with elasticated ankles. Grey or navy socks. <i>Widely available.</i>	Black trainers throughout the year.
SUMMER TERM/ FIRST HALF AUTUMN TERM			Plain NAVY shorts (not grey) may be worn as an alternative to jogging pants. <i>Widely available.</i> Blue check dresses may be worn as an alternative to jogging pants. White socks may be worn with summer dresses. <i>Widely available.</i>	Pumps (velcro or elasticated) may be worn with summer dresses (SHOES SHOULD NOT BE WORN AS THESE ARE INAPPROPRIATE FOR THE OUTDOOR AREA)
ALL RECEPTION CHILDREN - OUTDOOR			Waterproofs – all-in-one or two-piece.	Wellington boots
ALL RECEPTION CHILDREN - PE	<u>(If summer dresses are worn, a pale blue polo shirt or pale blue t-shirt and plain navy shorts must be kept in school for PE.)</u>			Black elasticated or Velcro fastening pumps to be kept in school for PE.
BADGED PE BAGS, INFANT BOOK BAGS AND TRIP BACKPACKS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE				
PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL ITEMS, INCLUDING TRAINERS, PUMPS AND SOCKS, ARE CLEARLY NAMED.				

MELLING PRIMARY UNIFORM EXPECTATIONS

ALL SHOULDER LENGTH AND LONG HAIR MUST BE TIED BACK (this is a Health and Safety requirement as well as for hygiene reasons)

NO JEWELLERY OR TATOOS SHOULD BE WORN IN SCHOOL

HAIRBANDS AND BOBBLES MUST BE OF SCHOOL COLOUR – NAVY BLUE

NO SANDALS OR TRAINERS TO BE WORN – FULLY BLACK SHOES PLEASE

Many thanks for your help and co-operation with this matter

	BADGED UNIFORM ITEM Available from Liver Print and Kids Kirkby.	PLAIN NO BADGE ITEM Widely available	FOOTWEAR
YR RECEPTION CLASS	Pale blue Polo Shirt Navy sweatshirt or cardigan	Navy jogging pants Navy blue or black socks Summer - Blue checked dresses may be worn if desired. White socks may be worn with summer dresses.	Plain, black trainers (Velcro or pull on... no laces) Black pumps may be worn with summer dresses. NO shoes/sandals
YEAR 1 YEAR 2	Pale blue polo shirt Navy sweatshirt or cardigan	Short or long grey trousers Grey or navy blue socks. Navy blue skirts, navy blue pinafores	Practical, plain, all black shoes throughout the year. Shoes should be comfortable, non-slip.

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		Grey or navy blue socks. Summer - Blue check dresses may be worn if desired. White socks may be worn with summer dresses. Summer – grey shorts, light blue polo t-shirt	If shoes have laces please ensure your child can tie them. No designer makes. No sandals.
YEAR 3 TO YEAR 6	School tie (elastic, clip, real tie) V-necked Jumper or cardigan (either sweatshirt material or knitted)	Pale blue shirt (long or short sleeved) Short or long grey trousers Grey or navy blue socks. Navy blue skirts, navy blue pinafores Grey or navy blue socks.	As above

SCHOOL PE KITS FOR ALL CHILDREN – TO BE WORN ON PE DAYS

PE - ALL CHILDREN <u>PE kits must be worn on the day that your child has PE or swimming.</u>	Pale blue t-shirt with logo. Jogging suit (as those worn in YR) – navy blue jogging bottoms (NOT LEGGINGS) and navy blue sweatshirt with logo/badge on	Navy shorts. Navy joggers (not leggings)	Pair of all black pumps or plain trainers for outdoor activities.
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BOOK BAGS AND TRIP BACKPACKS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE

THESE ARE THE ONLY BAGS THAT CHILDREN NEED – WE DO NOT HAVE ROOM/SPACE FOR LARGE BAGS

HAIR: hair of shoulder length (boys and girls) must be tied back (children will be given a bobble to tie their hair back if hair is not tied back when they arrive at school). Bobbles, bows, hair-bands must be navy blue or pale blue. No holiday hair braids please.

Jewellery: No jewellery to be worn apart from a plain (non digital) watch and stud earrings.

Children must not have tattoos; nail varnish; false nails or make up – children should not have manicured nails (shellac; gel; stick on) when in school.

PLEASE ENSURE THAT ALL ITEMS, INCLUDING TRAINERS, PUMPS, COATS, BAGS ARE CLEARLY NAMED.

Our badged school uniform (ties, jumpers and cardigans, polo shirts, PE tops) is available from:

- Kids Kirkby on St Chad's Parade in Kirkby and online
- alphaschoolwear.com
- 0151 548 9390

- Liver Print – Knowsley Industrial Park, 6F Academy Business Park, Liverpool L33 7SA
- 0151 548 1569
- www.liverprint.com

Unbadged uniform (dresses, joggers, skirts, trainers etc) can be bought from any school uniform supplier, including most supermarkets.