



Part of



**2025-26**

**Uniform Policy**

## Contents

1. Aims .....	2
2. Our school’s legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 .....	2
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform .....	3
4. Expectations for school uniform .....	3
5. Expectations for our school community .....	5
6. Monitoring arrangements .....	6
7. Links to other policies .....	6

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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 the 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 age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

### **3. Limiting the cost of school uniforms**

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

Although our preference is for logo items, parents are not forced to send their children to school with these items. Parents are most welcome to find other suppliers for items, but must maintain the school colours.

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. School uniform assistance is provided on a case-by-case basis.

To claim school uniform assistance, parents should be eligible for Free School Meals. Eligibility is determined by checking original documents from the relevant authority, detailing receipt of the benefit and the address of the pupil.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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 and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

### **4. Expectations for the school uniform**

#### **4.1 Our school's uniform**

At Tickford Park Primary School, our main uniform colour is Green. It consists of the following options:

- Bottle green polo shirt with or without school logo.
- Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan with or without logo.
- Girls summer dress in green gingham
- Girls pinafore dress in grey or black.
- Grey or black school trousers, shorts or skirts.
- Plain black flat shoes or trainers. Socks can be in any colour.
- On P.E. days, children should wear their P.E. kit to school and will keep it on for the full day. P.E. Kit at Tickford Park consists of:
  - Green or white t-shirt
  - Dark coloured shorts or jogging bottoms
  - Dark coloured sweatshirt or hoodie
  - Comfortable trainers
- All children starting Reception at Tickford Park require a book bag; this does not have to have the school logo on.
- All children starting Reception also need a bag of spare clothing on their peg, to be left at school each day, in case of toileting accidents or messy play. This bag needs to be small, ideally a drawstring bag for size and ease of access for the children, but it does not have to have the school logo on.
- When children move into Year 6, their uniform changes slightly. These children wear burgundy tops and polo shirts instead of green ones. This represents the responsibilities and privileges of being one of the oldest children in the school.
- In general, hats and head coverings should not be worn inside the school unless this is for religious, cultural, or medical reasons. Children are, of course, permitted to bring hats to wear on the playground; indeed, this is particularly advisable in both cold and particularly sunny weather. Tickford Park hats are available but by no means compulsory.
- Children with pierced ears may wear studs. For safety reasons, we do not allow dangly earrings – this includes on non-school uniform or dressing-up days.
- Parents can remove studs on PE days. If they are unable to do so, they should cover the earrings with micropore tape before school. The amount of tape used needs to be sufficient to prevent the piercing penetrating, for example, the bone behind the ear, should an unintentional blow be received from someone or some item of equipment, such as a ball.
- Watches can also be worn in school, including fitness trackers. However, children must accept responsibility for any loss or damage to these items.
- Religious artefacts may also be worn but may need to be removed for P.E. lessons.
- For safety reasons, no other jewellery is permitted.
- Makeup and nail varnish should also not be worn to school.

## 4.2 Where to purchase it

- Our main provider of school uniforms is:

*Maisies Superstore*

*60-64 Church Street, Wolverton, MK12 5JW.*

- You can also purchase it from [yourschooluniform.com](http://yourschooluniform.com)
- Our school has a PTA they hold regular second-hand uniform sales throughout the year.

## **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 at [office@tickfordpark.org.uk](mailto:office@tickfordpark.org.uk) 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/carers are also expected to contact the headteacher at [office@tickfordpark.org.uk](mailto:office@tickfordpark.org.uk) 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/carers 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

Parents must also ensure their child will wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

### **5.3 Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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
- Considers the views of parents/carers 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 two years and is managed by Julie Stevens (Headteacher). At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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