



## MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

### UNIFORM AND SCHOOL CLOTHING POLICY

#### 1 Introduction

1.1 It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus.

#### 2 Aims and objectives

2.1 Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- is designed with health and safety in mind.
- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;

#### 3 Jewellery

3.1 On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.

The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small necklaces of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children to remove these objects during PE and games, to prevent them from causing injury. Bracelets may not be worn unless they are 'medi-alert' bracelets. Bracelets for religious purposes cannot be worn in school as they are a health & safety hazard.

#### 3.2 P.E

##### INDOOR

**Infants** White vests (that fully cover the tummy) and pants or P.E. kit - white T-shirt and navy blue shorts. bare feet or plimsolls (but not trainers) for indoor P.E.

**Junior** White T-shirt and navy blue shorts. The children will do indoor P.E. in bare feet or plimsolls (but not trainers). Short sleeves may be worn but not **sleeveless** T-shirts.

##### OUTDOOR

**Infants** Navy blue shorts, white T-shirts, socks and plimsolls. They may change into track suits in very cold weather.

**Junior** Navy blue shorts, white T-shirts, socks, plimsolls or light-weight training shoes. They may wear track suits in very cold weather.

For hygiene reasons children must change out of their normal clothing for P.E. This includes footwear.

P.E. kit should be stored in a plimsoll bag/kit bag (the school uniform stockists sell suitable P.E. kit bags), labelled with the child's name.  
Children should not wear jewellery during P.E. for safety reasons (religious symbols may have to be removed or secured in some way during P.E.).

**Please note:** All children must have their P.E. kit available at all times during the week. It can be taken home for washing at weekends but **must** be brought back to school on Monday morning.

**Nursery** Children wear school uniform in the nursery for health and safety. Our uniform is consistent with the school expectations.  
Winter uniform - a school sweatshirt or fleece, white polo shirt. **Easy pull up jogging bottoms are recommended for both boys and girls** as we do lots of active play and they are easier for the children to put on or take off independently. In summer, girls may wear blue school dress as an alternative.

Children must have a full change of clothes in school and all items of clothing must have the child's name on it. Children need to be dressed appropriately for the weather/season. Nursery children should have wellington boots which they live in school and a waterproof suit. Playsuit is recommended which can be purchased from the school.

### 3.3 Sun safety

Parents can give permission for their children to apply their own sunscreen (spray preferable) during the school day if needed. Children should bring a long sleeve cotton shirt to wear at break times to cover their arms. This can be removed in the classroom. Long trousers also give better protection.

#### **Nursery and Toddlers**

The same rules regarding protecting the skin- cover up skin and the head where possible.

## 4. Footwear

**4.1** The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so children must not wear such shoes to school. Nor do we recommend children wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear black shoes as stated in the uniform list. Flip-flops or sandals that do not have a sling back are not safe, therefore are not permitted. Socks must be worn with sandals.

## 5 The role of parents

**5.1** We ask all parents to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork or safe play in the Nursery. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

**5.2** If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Girls who wear headscarves should wear plain white, blue or black scarves.

**5.3** Parents are asked to label all children's clothing to avoid loss or confusion with other children's items.

**5.4** We will accept donations of good quality used uniform but only if they are embossed with the school badge.

## **6 The role of governors**

**6.1** Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

**6.2** The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

**6.3** It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

## **7 Monitoring and review**

**7.1** The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.