



MARYLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL
UNIFORM AND SCHOOL CLOTHING POLICY
updated September 2022

1 Introduction

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

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, comfortable 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

Health & safety takes priority, therefore we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears, and small necklaces/bangles of cultural or religious significance. We ask the children to remove these objects during PE and games, to prevent them from causing injury. Bracelets for cultural or religious purposes must be covered with a sweat band as they are a health & safety hazard. 'Medi-alert' bracelets are permitted.

4 P.E

INDOOR

Maryland P.E. kit, bare feet or plimsolls (but not trainers) for indoor P.E.
Children must have bare feet for gymnastics.

OUTDOOR

Maryland P.E. kit, 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 labelled with the child's name.

Long hair must be tied back and it is advised that headscarves are removed for gymnastics. Please refer to 'jewellery' for further guidance regarding health & safety during PE lessons.

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.

5 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 and a hat to wear at break times to cover their arms and head. This can be removed in the classroom. Long trousers also give better protection.

Nursery and Toddlers

Sunscreen should be applied before school. Please ensure your child has appropriate clothing to protect their skin and head.

4. Footwear

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. 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

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.

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.

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

We will accept donations of good quality used uniform.

6 The role of governors

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

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.

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

7 Monitoring and review

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.