



Manby Lodge Infant School

Uniform Policy

Last reviewed on: Spring 2025

Next review due: Spring 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 age, sex, 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 or pinned 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 wear headscarves and/or other religious garments or accessories
- 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 their child's class teacher to discuss this, in the first instance. Some requests may need to be discussed with the Headteacher. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

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
- 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 extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, 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 school uniform**4.1 Our school's uniform**

<u>Winter</u>	<u>Summer</u>
Grey pinafore/skirt or smart trousers	Pale blue checked dress or grey shorts and a sky-blue polo shirt
Sky-blue polo shirt	Manby Lodge sweatshirt or sweat-cardigan
Manby Lodge sweatshirt or sweat-cardigan	White or grey socks
Grey tights or socks	Black shoes
Black shoes	Branded Manby Lodge bookbag
Blue or white hair accessories only	
Branded Manby Lodge bookbag	

PE Uniform for girls and boys

Manby Lodge PE t-shirt (white embroidered or plain pale blue)

Royal blue shorts

Royal blue jogging bottoms or royal blue or black leggings

Black velcro plimsolls or non-marking trainers

Manby Lodge royal blue PE bag (plain unbranded also available)

<u>*Forest School for girls and boys (all year groups)</u>	<u>For wet weather:</u>
**Long sleeved T-shirt	Water-proof trousers
**Royal blue jogging bottoms or royal blue or black leggings	Water-proof jacket with a hood
	Wellington boots

*Forest School for Year R does not start until after Christmas. ** long sleeves and trousers v shorts are required to mitigate against ticks. **Short sleeves and shorts are not allowed.**

Jewellery and other accessories

No jewellery should be worn in school. We really discourage parents from sending children to school with earrings, particularly in Year R and Year 1 where children's learning is more active. If your child does have pierced ears, only flat stud earrings are permitted. Children should not wear hoop earrings.

Jewellery for religious reasons can be worn with agreement from the Headteacher.

4.2 Where to purchase our uniform

Branded school uniform items are available online at the following uniform retailers:

[Myclothing.com](https://www.myclothing.com)

[Unismart](https://www.unismart.co.uk)

Grey trousers, pinafore, skirt and light blue summer dresses form part of the uniform and can be easily obtained from any chain store or supermarket.

Our PTA (FOML) hold good quality used school uniform sales throughout the year. Parents can email them on their dedicated preloved uniform email: foml.preloveduniform@gmail.com

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (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)

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 their child's class teacher, in the first instance, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Some requests may need to be discussed with the Headteacher. Requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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

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 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.

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
- Takes into account 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. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Relationships and Behaviour policy
- Equality information and Policy and our Equalities objectives
- Anti-bullying policy
- Formal Complaints policy