Crown Meadow First School & Nursery

Uniform Policy

Policy Written	Parent Consultation	Policy Ratified	Next Review Due
26 April 2022	26 April 2022 – 5 May 2022	Summer 2022	Summer 2024
Reviewed linked to PE Tops Summer 2023	Summer 2023 – Change to red PE tops agreed	September 2025	Summer 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 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 (though we reserve the right to ask for this to 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
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with our Pastoral Lead, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible. We do advocate the wearing of a Crown Meadow cardigan or jumper featuring our school logo, however plain cardigans or jumpers in the same shade of red are acceptable.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost 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 leveler
- 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 school providing bibs
- 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 school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

We prefer our Nursery children to wear Crown Meadow School Uniform from the waist upwards. Although this is not mandatory. Nursery children will need to bring a spare set of clothes from home which can stay on their peg for the half term.

All items of school uniform must be named. We do not accept liability for any lost items.

*We do advocate the wearing of a Crown Meadow polo shirt, cardigan or jumper featuring our school logo, however plain cardigans or jumpers in the same shade of red are acceptable.

Winter Uniform	Dark grey trousers
	Grey skirt or pinafore dress
	Red polo shirt, with school logo*
	Red sweatshirt, with school logo*
	Black or grey socks
	Tights (red, black or grey is acceptable)
Summer Uniform	Dark grey shorts
	Red and white gingham cotton dress or dress variation such as a blouse and skirt
	Sun hat (whilst we would appreciate red to tie in with our school uniform, protection is priority – so any colour, unbranded hat is acceptable)
Jewellery/Accessories	Simple studs may be worn (which will be covered over in P.E.)
	A simple watch or Fitbit style devise may be worn. Technological or smart watches which include photographic devises may not be worn.
	Nail varnish may not be worn.
	Temporary tattoos may not be visibly worn.
	Hair longer than shoulder length must be tied back. Brightly coloured hair colouring is strongly discouraged, except on purposeful non-uniform days such as red for Comic Relief.
Headscarves/ Hijab	These may be worn for religious reasons, but only in our school colours of black and red.

Shoes (Black) Flat shoes and Wellington boots (Forest Schools). It is essential that children wear sensible well-fitting shoes with socks at all times

PE Kit**	Plain red T-shirt Black or navy shorts (elasticated waist - no cords or ties) Trainers with velcro are preferred (any colour) or alternatively black slip-on pumps Black or navy track suit bottoms (winter only) with grey, black or white socks Pump bags (officially known as a gymsac) are available from our uniform suppliers. Whilst we prefer our school logo featured, we also accept plain red gymacs.

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*(** Reception children will not require PE kit until the Spring term)*

Swimming	There is no Crown Meadow specifics for the colouring, style or design of swimsuits or trunks.
Daily School Bags	Book bags featuring our school logo are preferred and available through our uniform

suppliers. However, plain red book bags are acceptable. We discourage children from bringing larger bags such as rucksacks to school as cloakroom space is very limited.

4.2 Where to purchase it

As we work together as one community to protect our planet and live sustainably, we offer regular second-hand uniform sales. Prior to the sale, parents are asked to donate unwanted uniform (with children's names deleted) for re-sale. It is often our Parent Teachers Association (PTA) who lead second-hand uniform sales. We encourage all parents to maximize opportunities for second-hand uniform to both reduce cost and care for our planet.

Items of school uniform, including book bags, are available from Orchard Clothing, Hunt End Industrial Estate, 30 Dunlop Road, Redditch, Worcestershire, B97 5XP (01527 545555 / 0845 208 0471 www.orchardclothing.co.uk) or Branded4U (formally known as The Locker Room), 63 Hewell Road, Barnt Green, Birmingham, B45 8NL (0121 445 3262 / email: sales@branded-4u.co.uk. Branded4U have a range of uniform items in their store together with order forms if needed.

Whilst we prefer items such as jumpers and cardigans to feature our school logo, please refer back to our uniform breakdown as all items of school uniform are available unbranded and from your local supermarket, potentially reducing cost to parents.

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 our Pastoral Lead 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 are also expected to contact our Pastoral Lead 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 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.

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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by our Pastoral Lead.

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 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 by the Senior Leadership Team. 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