

Lyme Community Primary School

School Uniform Policy

We have updated this policy in line with the DfE's new statutory uniforms guidance.

Schools are expected to be compliant with the majority of this guidance by September 2022.

Policy ratified by Governors January 2022

Statement of intent

Lyme Community Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

1. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's '[Cost of school uniforms](#)' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring staff understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

Economically disadvantaged parents.

Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.

Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.

Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.

Looked After Children and families eligible for Pupil Premium Grants

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include

consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

There is NO requirement at Lyme to have branded items of uniform.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils.

Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school implements a gender-neutral uniform, meaning that pupils are not required to wear specific items based on their gender.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

School uniform supplier

Whittakers provide an online service to order our school uniform.

Here is the link - <https://www.whittakersschoolwear.co.uk/product-category/st-helens/lyme-primary->

There are other uniform suppliers in Earlestown and Newton-le-Willows that sell our uniform.

School/ Uniform assistance

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms. The budget for school uniform assistance comes from pupil premium funds.

The school holds second-hand school uniforms for parents to access. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

Non-compliance

Regular reminders are given about what the uniform expectations are. Cases of non-compliance are dealt with informally in the majority of cases. Where an issue keeps arising a letter may be sent home.

School uniform

School uniform is compulsory for full-time children in school.

All items of clothing should be clearly named.

Uniform is as follows:

- ❖ Red sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan (SCHOOL LOGO NOT NECESSARY)
- ❖ White polo shirt (T-shirt with collar)
- ❖ Grey skirt/trousers (**Please note:** Trousers should be the tailored type and **NOT** jeans or leggings. **Please also note:** The school colour is **GREY - NOT BLACK**).
- ❖ Summer dresses are red gingham and shorts can be worn.
- ❖ School shoes must be black, plain black trainers are permitted.

School sweatshirts, coats and fleeces may be purchased at any time from the office. Prices on request.

The P.E. kit is:

- Plain white t-shirt.
- Usual school sweatshirt/cardigan/fleece
- Plain black leggings or jogging bottoms or red shorts
- Plain black pumps or trainers

Children may come to school in their PE kits on the days they have games or after school sports clubs.

Jewellery

No jewellery may be worn in school.

Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name.

Lost Property

Labelled items are returned to their owners. Unlabelled items that are lost go in a red box underneath the stairs. This is emptied on tables outside regularly to give children and parents the opportunity to be reunited with items belonging to them.

Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years.

The scheduled review date for this policy is January 2024