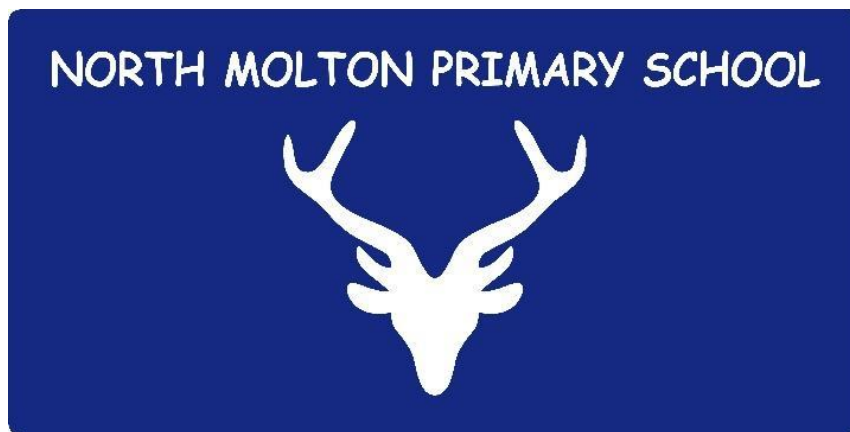


School uniform policy

North Molton Primary School



**Approved by: North Molton Primary
School Community Board**

Date: November, 2022

Last reviewed on: November 2022

Next review due by: November 2024

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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 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 Head teacher, Mrs Angela Fernyhough 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- 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 creating posters or labels
- 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

Pupils are required to wear

- Grey or black school trousers / skirt
- Grey shorts and navy gingham dresses are permitted in the summer and first half of autumn term
- North Molton Primary School branded navy sweatshirt or cardigan
- White polo shirt
- White / grey / black socks
- Black school shoes (no trainers) Ankle boots are permitted in the winter but no high boots
- All pupils are required to have a NMPS branded backpack. Pupils who currently have a NMPS branded book-bag can continue to use this until they start KS2
- All pupils must have a warm, waterproof coat in the winter and a waterproof coat for summer

Earrings and Hairstyles

- Simple ear studs are permitted but must be removed for PE
- Long hair must be tied back when it is over shoulder length
- 'Alice' bands (hair bands) and hair bobble ties are permitted but should be navy / white / royal blue. No elaborate 'Alice bands'.
- No make-up or nail varnish
- No extreme hairstyles or hair dye

PE Kit – in a drawstring bag

- Sky blue North Molton Primary School branded polo tee-shirt
- Navy shorts
- Trainers
- In the winter, children can wear navy or black tracksuit bottoms (no logos or brands visible)

Swimming Kit – in a drawstring bag

- Swimming shorts / full body costume
- Swimming goggles
- Swimming towel

4.2 Where to purchase it

NMPS branded items (sweatshirt / cardigan / PE t-shirt / bookbag / backpack) can be purchased from Maritime Motifs/Heather Everitt Embroidery <https://www.maritimemotifs.co.uk/> which are in South Molton. The school will also carry some branded items at the beginning and end of the school year to support parents to buy for the school year ahead.

All other items can be purchased from a range of high-street shops or supermarkets.

There are second hand uniform sales at least twice a year which are jointly organised by the PTA and school but parents and carers can always approach the school office to enquire about second hand uniforms available.

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
- Traveling 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 Angela Fernyhough, Head Teacher 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 labeled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Angela Fernyhough, Head Teacher 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 the 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 School Community Boards

The School Community Board will review this policy and consider the following:

- That it is appropriate for our school's context
- That it is implemented fairly across the school
- That it takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- That it offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The SCB will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Head Teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the School Community Board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy