
Victoria Road Primary Policy for

Uniforms

Prepared by:	Adopted by Local Governing Body	Signed	Review Date (annual review)
MATBOM May 17 from TheSchoolBus template Principal		----- Chair of Governors	Summer 2024

Contents:

Statement of intent

1. Legislative framework
2. Cost and availability
3. Religious clothing
4. Equality
5. Complaints and challenges
6. Non-compliance
7. School colours
8. Boys' uniforms
9. Girls' uniforms
10. PE kits
11. Footwear
12. Jewellery
13. Hairstyles
14. Make-up
15. Labelling
16. Policy review

Statement of intent

Our policy has been created with health and safety, value for money, and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure pupils wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment. It is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform.

We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports specific attire.

Victoria Road Primary School is committed to ensuring equality and value for money, and that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

1. Legislative framework

1.1 This policy has due regard to statutory legislation and national guidance, including, but not limited to the following:

- The Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Education Act 2011
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2013) 'School uniform'

2. Cost and availability

- 2.1. Under the School Admissions Code 2014, the academy must ensure that "policies around school uniform or school trips do not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child"¹.
- 2.2. Victoria Road is committed to fulfilling the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care has been taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and potential pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.
- 2.3. Victoria Road works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents/carers where possible.
- 2.4. The academy does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.
- 2.5. The academy does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes into account the views of parents/carers and pupils when considering changes to school uniforms.
- 2.6. Where wholesale changes are required, the academy ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

3. Religious clothing

- 3.1. Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. Victoria Road does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the academy must weigh the

¹ DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code', para 1.8

needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire academy community. The academy endeavours to allow most religious requirements to be met.

- 3.2. Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Principal and local governing body, and always in accordance with the Trust's Complaints Policy.

4. Equality

- 4.1. The academy is required to ensure that the Uniform Policy does not discriminate unlawfully.
- 4.2. Every step has been taken by Victoria Road to ensure that the cost of girls' and boys' uniforms are not disproportionate.
- 4.3. Pupil's identifying as a member of the opposite sex are able to adapt uniform regulations.

5. Complaints and challenges

- 5.1. The academy endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the Trust's Complaints Policy. Parents/carers can lodge complaints via the Principal.
- 5.2. When a complaint is received, the academy works with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- 5.3. The Principal is willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

6. Non-compliance

- 6.1. Teachers are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching the Uniform Policy, in accordance with the academy's Behaviour Policy.
- 6.2. The Principal, or a person authorised by the Principal, is permitted to ask a pupil to briefly go home to remedy breaches of the school's Uniform Policy.

- 6.3. When deciding whether to allow a pupil to return home, the academy takes into account the pupil's age and vulnerability, the length of time it will take, and the availability of the pupil's parents/carers. When considered inappropriate for a child to return home the academy will contact parents to request they bring the required uniform to the academy.
- 6.4. Where a pupil has been sent home to rectify uniform breaches, the absence will be recorded as 'authorised'.
- 6.5. If a pupil repeatedly breaches uniform rules or takes longer than necessary to rectify the absence, the absence will be counted as 'unauthorised'.
- 6.6. Parents/carers are notified in all cases.

7. Uniform

- 7.1. The academy uniform is as follows:
 - School navy sweatshirt with or without school logo or school navy cardigan
 - Blue polo shirt
 - Grey trousers, or grey skirt or pinafore
 - Plain Black shoes

8. PE kits

- 8.1. PE kits are as follows:
 - White polo shirt
 - Black shorts
 - Track suit and top for winter months
 - Suitable trainers
 - Suitable sports footwear, e.g. football boots
- 8.2. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

9. Footwear

- 9.1. Black shoes or trainers should be worn. Pupils are not permitted to wear boots. If a pupil needs to wear wellington boots or warm boots to travel to school in comfort, they must have their normal school shoes with them to change into.
- 9.2. Block heels of no more than 3cm may be worn.

10. Jewellery

- 10.1. One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are acceptable.
- 10.2. Pupils are not permitted to wear any other jewellery in the academy grounds, due to health and safety risks.

11. Hairstyles

- 11.1. The academy reserves the right to make a judgement on the suitability or unsuitability of pupils' hair and appearance.
- 11.2. Extreme hairstyles, such as mohawks and patterned or brightly coloured hair, are unacceptable.
- 11.3. Pupils with extreme hairstyles, such as cornrows, may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds, taking into consideration each individual person's scenario.
- 11.4. Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk.

12. Make-up

- 12.1. The Trust does not consider make-up appropriate and pupils are not permitted to wear any such products; however, there may be exceptions in extreme circumstances, at the Principal's discretion (i.e. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage).

13. Labelling

- 13.1. All clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with the pupil's name.

14. COVID- Due to Covid lock-down, the school uniform policy will be relaxed. Pupils will be wearing clothes that can be washed every day and are compatible with the children playing outdoors in all weathers. Trainers, tracksuits etc.

15 Policy review

- 15.1 This policy is reviewed every three years by the Principal
- 15.2 The scheduled review date for this policy is Summer Term 2020/21