

School Uniform Policy

Overview

Ensuring students attend school dressed smartly in school uniform is the foundation for high standards in other aspects of school life, including a positive work ethic and conduct in and around school. The school uniform at MCS was co-designed by students, families, staff, governors and others. It is an indication of belonging to our school community, of being ready to learn, and furthermore acts as an identifier for safeguarding purposes.

We understand that for families, purchasing uniform and ensuring a child arrives at school dressed appropriately can be a stressful time. Our uniform guide is designed to support families with the process by outlining our expectations, which in turn will help families understand what is expected of their child when the academic year begins in September.

Our intention is to ensure that students look smart, but not at undue expense for families. We have ensured as a school that the cost of our uniform is both affordable and of good quality. Although all items apart from the school tie can either be purchased from our supplier or other retailers such as supermarkets, we are confident that items such as the branded blazer represent excellent value compared to generic alternatives that are available.

We hope this uniform guide provides both students and families with clarity around our uniform expectations. We have the highest expectations of our students and throughout the academic year, students should expect to be challenged by staff where they fail to meet our expectations with regard to school uniform.

The school retains a selection of shoes, ties, blazers, trousers and shorts in our *Ready To Learn* provision. Where a pupil fails to attend school in the correct uniform, they will be required to exchange the item and borrow our uniform. Therefore, we really appreciate your support in advance by checking that your child is dressed appropriately for school.

The school reserves the right to confiscate any items (for example, hoodies and inappropriate jewellery) that do not conform to the school's expectations with regards to uniform. These items will be stored safely and returned to the individual at an appropriate time by a designated member of staff.

Grants to support families with the purchase of school uniform are available on an annual basis. Please click [this link](#) for further information.

Main uniform – please refer to [Monkhouse website](#) for images

1. Navy blue badged blazer
2. Light blue shirt OR light blue blouse
3. Tailored mid grey trousers OR mid grey tailored shorts
4. School tie
5. Black or grey ankle socks, OR plain black or natural tights
6. Black leather polishable or patent shoes (4cm max. heel)
7. Badged jumper (optional)

- Blazers must be worn, except in classrooms, when they may be removed.
- Shirts must be tucked in, and top buttons must be done up.
- Trousers must reach the top of the shoe; shorts must reach the knee.

PE uniform – please refer to [Monkhouse website](#) for images

1. Navy blue badged T shirt OR badged PE top
2. Navy blue plain shorts OR skort OR leggings
3. Navy blue plain sport socks
4. Badged PE mid layer (optional)

Suppliers

All branded items and generic items are available from [Monkhouse, our main suppliers](#). Monkhouse offer a delivery service to school free of charge, for students to collect from the Ready To Learn room. Alternatively families may choose to have uniform orders delivered to their home address. Black Mountain is an alternative supplier that also stocks our uniform, and has a shop in Ross on Wye.

Families are also welcome to purchase generic items from other retailers as long as they are an exact style and colour match to the MCS uniform. The following pages contain images and links to some alternatives:

Shirts: [ASDA BOYS](#) [ASDA GIRLS](#) [M&S BOYS](#) [M&S GIRLS](#) [NEXT BOYS](#) [NEXT GIRLS](#)

As with all generic uniform items, families are welcome to purchase items from any retailer so long as they are a colour and style match to the below.

We have responded to student feedback in order to provide a choice of trouser styles depending on individual preference. For clarity, no jeans, joggers or leggings will be permitted.

Item visual	Link to retailer
	ASDA trousers
	M and S trousers
	Monkhouse trousers
	Monkhouse trousers
	M&S trousers

		<u>Trutex trousers</u>
		<u>Sainsburys trousers</u>
		<u>ASDA trousers</u>
		<u>New Look trousers</u>
		<u>Next wide leg trousers</u>

		Next shorts
		John Lewis shorts
		Monkhouse shorts

Please note that MCS uniform is gender neutral in line with Welsh Government requirements although retailers sometimes refer to 'boys' and 'girls' uniform.

Please check generic items against pictures on the Monkhouse website to ensure that they match, as items that do not match will not be permitted and could incur additional costs for families.

Other styles and/or colours from other retailers are not acceptable uniform (e.g. the blue for PE shorts is a navy blue, not royal blue or mid blue; trousers and tailored shorts must be mid grey, not black). No visible logos are permitted. If in doubt, please enquire with us before purchasing.

School shoes

We hope that the following is a helpful guide:

- School shoes must be plain – no obvious logos, tags etc.
- Shoes must be entirely black.
- Shoes must be leather or leather-look, which is polishable or patent
- No boots
- No open-toed shoes
- No suede, canvas etc. as these types of footwear are less robust and less waterproof.
- Some sports brands offer shoe-like footwear as part of their range. Whilst we cannot list every model of footwear that is or is not appropriate, we are aware that models such as black leather Nike Air Force 1 are popular. If this particular model is bought then the silver tag at the front must be removed, and the shoe should be polished.
- As with any aspect of school uniform, please ask for advice before purchasing if in any doubt
- The images below may support in making decisions around footwear





Jewellery

- One pair of stud type earrings is permitted. Ear studs may be worn but not rings or other styles. 'Stretcher' style earrings, spikes and flesh tunnels are not permitted.
- One necklace, to be worn underneath a shirt or blouse, and not to be visible.
- One 'band' type ring and/or a wristwatch.
- No facial jewellery - No piercing of eyebrow, lip, nose, tongue, chin, etc. No facial jewellery of any type is permissible.
- No magnetic jewellery of any type is permitted.
- No other jewellery or tattoos are permissible.

Hair and make up

Hair colour should be either natural or dyed one natural colour. 'Dip-dyed' or Ombre hair is not permitted.

Make-up should look natural and with no extremes.

Nail varnish should be a natural colour. False nails are not permitted.

Ready To Learn support

The Ready To Learn room is open from 8.30am to 9.00am every school day. It is located in the administration corridor and is available for any student who needs to borrow uniform or equipment for the day. Students are required to leave a deposit, such as a mobile phone, bank card or other appropriate personal item as a returnable deposit. Student deposits are locked safely in the room for the day, and are returned at the end of the day once items are returned in good condition.

Additional notes

No single Uniform Policy can guarantee to cover every possible eventuality, and MCS reserves the right to use professional judgement to determine what is or is not appropriate uniform.

Refusal to meet uniform expectations or refusal to accept the support of Ready To Learn will be treated under the Behaviour Policy as refusal to follow the direction of the School, and sanctions will be applied at the discretion of the School. A student who refuses to wear the correct uniform is likely to be placed in the Reset Room in the first instance whilst further decisions are made.

Any medical exceptions require a letter from the hospital or G.P. before any exemptions are made. The Form Tutor or Wellbeing Team should be contacted to discuss any concerns.

This Policy complies with all aspects of relevant statutory guidance.

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