Beaminster
St. Mary's Academy

We love each other, learn together
and inspire all to succeed.

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Beaminster St Mary's Academy

Policy Date: October 2026

Review Date: October 2029

Purpose and principles

Our uniform helps children feel that they belong at our school, supports equality and creates a practical, calm approach to the school day. This policy is designed to be affordable, inclusive and easy for families to follow. Cost must never prevent a child from applying to, attending or taking part fully in school.

This policy follows Department for Education rules and guidance on keeping school uniform costs affordable, updated in July 2026. It also follows the Equality Act 2010 and the Human Rights Act 1998.

Our uniform

The following requirements apply to children in Reception to Year 6. Families may buy all generic items from any retailer. We only ask that children wear a sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan with the school logo; all other items can be unbranded.

Item	Specification	Status	Branding
Everyday top	Royal blue polo shirt	Required	Plain or optional school logo
Warm layer	Royal blue sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan. No hoodies	Required as needed	School logo
Reception to Year 6	Black or grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore.	Required	Generic
Footwear	Plain black, safe, closed-toe school shoes	Required	Generic
Summer option	Blue and white checked/Gingham summer dress	Optional	Generic
Outdoor clothing	A practical coat suitable for the weather	Required as needed	Generic; any safe, sensible colour

PE kit

Children wear their PE kit to school on their allocated PE days. All items may be purchased from any retailer and must be comfortable and suitable for physical activity. White T-shirt and hoodie should have the school logo on.

Item	Specification	Status
Top	White T-shirt	Required
Lower garment	Plain black shorts, joggers or sports leggings	Required
Warm layer	Royal blue hoodie with the school logo	As needed
Footwear	Trainers suitable for PE	Required

The school will loan specialist team kit where it is needed for sports fixtures. No child will be prevented from taking part in PE or representing the school because of uniform cost or a temporary uniform difficulty.

Appearance and safety

- Long hair must be tied back. Hair may be worn in any natural or protective style that is safe for school activities.
- One pair of small stud earrings may be worn. Other jewellery is not permitted, except a simple religious necklace or article agreed with the school. Jewellery may need to be removed or secured for PE and practical activities.
- Nail varnish, make-up and dyed hair are not part of school uniform.
- Clothing, bags and accessories should not display offensive, discriminatory or party-political wording or imagery.
- All clothing and footwear should be safe, practical and clearly named.
- In line with our Phone Policy, smart devices such as watches, glasses or other items may not be worn.

Affordability and branded items

We do not require any clothing with the school logo. Families may order polo shirts, sweatshirts, jumpers or cardigans with the logo from our supplier, but they can always choose the same item without a logo. To keep uniform affordable, the school will:

- Keep the number and cost of compulsory items to a minimum and consider the total cost to families when this policy is reviewed;
- Avoid requiring additional uniform for clubs, trips, performances or competitions;
- Allow enough notice and a reasonable transition period if requirements change;
- Review any uniform-supply arrangements for cost, quality, durability and value for money; and
- Publish clear uniform and second-hand arrangements on the school website for current and prospective families.

Second-hand uniform and support

All families can get good-quality second-hand uniform. This is available by contacting the school office. Families can also contact the school office privately for help.

If paying for uniform is difficult, please speak privately to the school office. The school may be able to provide or lend items, help you find second-hand uniform, or agree that your child can wear something different for a short time. We will offer help privately and respectfully.

Equality, religion and individual needs

All children may choose from the uniform options. We will consider changes where a child needs them. This includes reasonable adjustments for disabled children and children with special educational needs, sensory needs or medical conditions. Children may wear adaptive uniform.

We will do our best to meet a child's religious or cultural needs, including dress, hairstyles, head coverings and articles of faith. We will only limit these where there is a genuine health, safety or safeguarding reason, and any limit will go no further than necessary. Families should speak with the Headteacher so that we can agree a suitable arrangement together.

Weather and exceptional circumstances

The Headteacher may temporarily adapt uniform expectations during extreme or adverse weather or where this supports a child's attendance, health or wellbeing. Children may wear practical outerwear needed to travel safely to and from school, including visible or reflective clothing in poor light.

When uniform expectations are not met

Staff will deal with uniform concerns calmly, privately and fairly. Before taking any further action, they will check whether there is a reason outside the child's control. This could include cost, a medical or sensory need, religion or culture, or a safeguarding concern. Where helpful, the school will contact parents and find a practical solution, such as lending an item or agreeing a temporary change.

We will deal with uniform concerns fairly and in line with the school's Behaviour Policy. A child will not miss lessons, breaktime, PE, a club or any other part of school life because their family cannot afford the correct uniform. If the school considers a formal consequence, it must follow the Behaviour Policy and relevant legal guidance.

Roles and responsibilities

Academy Standards and Ethos Committee (ASEC) - Governors

The ASEC checks that this policy follows government guidance and the law. It also checks that the uniform is affordable and considers how the policy affects different groups of children.

The Headteacher and school staff

The Headteacher implements the policy fairly, ensures reasonable adjustments and support are considered, and keeps uniform information current and accessible. Staff model and reinforce expectations consistently, avoid public correction or shaming, and raise any concern about hardship, discrimination or wellbeing with the appropriate leader.

Parents and carers

Parents and carers are asked to provide the required uniform, label items, contact the school early if support or an adjustment is needed, and work with the school to resolve concerns.

Children

Children are expected to wear the agreed uniform, look after their belongings and speak to a trusted adult if they need help or feel uncomfortable or unfairly treated.

Consultation, publication and review

We will ask parents and children for their views when we develop this policy or plan a major change. We will pay particular attention to cost and to whether a change could affect some groups of children differently. The final policy will be easy to find on the school website and will be available to families whose children have not yet joined the school. We will review it at least once a year, and sooner if the law, government guidance or local circumstances change.

Complaints

If you have a question or concern, please speak to the Headteacher first so that the school and your family can try to agree a solution. If the issue is not resolved, you can make a formal complaint using the school's published complaints procedure. If your concern is about the supplier's service or the quality of an item, you can also use the supplier's complaints process.

Related documents and guidance

- Behaviour Policy
- Complaints Procedure
- Equality information and objectives
- Department for Education Cost of school uniforms statutory guidance, updated 6 July 2026
- Department for Education Developing school uniform policy guidance, updated 6 July 2026
- Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998

Supplier information

Uniform can be purchased from: My Clothing (online) or locality from Kitz Uk in Sherborne.

Un-branded items: local supermarkets and online suppliers.

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School Uniform Expectations

We are proud to be part of Beaminster St Mary's Academy…
and our uniform helps us feel smart, safe and ready to learn.

- ✓ Polo shirt (royal blue with school logo)
- ✓ Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan (with school logo)
- ✓ Black or grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- ✓ Grey tights or socks
- ✓ Black school shoes (plain, with no logos)
- ✓ Hair tied back where needed for safety
- ✓ No jewellery (except small stud earrings and a watch)

Uniform available from MyClothing or locally KitzUK, Sherborne

Full details and photos can also be found on our school website.

PE Kit Expectations

PE helps us stay healthy, active and have fun!
Please come to school in the correct PE kit on your PE days.

- ✓ PE T-shirt (white, with school logo)
- ✓ Plain black shorts
- ✓ Plain black tracksuit trousers
- ✓ Trainers (with good grip)
- ✓ Hair tied back for safety and comfort (where needed)

Optional:

- ✓ Royal blue hoodie (with school logo)

PE T-shirt | Black shorts | Tracksuit trousers | Trainers | Hoodie (optional)

Full details and photos can also be found on our school website.

♥ *Proud to be part of Beaminster St Mary's* ♥