MURDISHAW WEST PRIMARY & NURSERY SCHOOL

UNIFORM POLICY

Autumn 2026

Policy Title	UNIFORM POLICY
School/HBC	Murdishaw West Primary & Nursery
Written by	J Phillips
Staff Approval Date	
Committee Approval Date	
FGB Ratification Date	November 2026
Signed by Chair of Governors	D Cox
Date	
Review Date	November 2027

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 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
- Apply expectations about hair in a fair and reasonable way
- Allow pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable, provided this does not create a health and safety concern
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Make reasonable adjustments to our policy on the grounds of equality where needed, by asking pupils or their parents to contact our school office, 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 or 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 and carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible and not making these items mandatory unless essential
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- 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 groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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

Children who attend Murdishaw West Primary & Nursery School are expected to wear:

- White or blue polo shirt or white shirt with collar
- Black or grey trousers, skirt, pinafore, shorts or leggings
- Navy blue jumper or cardigan, branded or unbranded
- Black shoes

Summer uniform can include blue and white summer dresses.

We require children to have their hair tied back and out of their face to stop distractions from learning. We also ask that children do not come to school with nail varnish on and that jewellery must be kept to studs in ears only. Children must be able to remove jewellery themselves for PE lessons.

When taking part in PE lessons, children must have:

- White tops
- Black or navy shorts or trousers in the winter
- Trainers

During winter months, children may bring in jumpers and tracksuits as part of their PE kit.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Parents and carers can purchase our branded jumpers and cardigans from our supplier, **My Clothing**. A link to this is on our school website, under the **Parents** tab.

Parents can also purchase uniform from our School Office, depending on stock, or contact our School Office for further advice or support.

School website link: My Clothing

Information about second-hand uniform:

- The school will welcome contributions of second-hand uniform
- This will be washed and offered for uniform sale at a reduced cost to parents

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
- Travelling 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 our school office 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 labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact our school office 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 raise any complaints or objections relating to our school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of our school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

Our 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 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 does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by our Senior Leadership Team.

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 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years by our Senior Leadership Team. At every review, it will be approved by our Governing Body.

