

Uniform Policy

My Choice School expects all students to wear uniform.

Our uniform is intended to:

- Ensure equality in the school community and to reduce any anxiety or competition about designer brands or fashions.
- Ensure that students clothing is safe and appropriate to the school environment and activities
- Ensure that students develop employability skills and are prepared for dress codes and PPE requirements when they start work
- Ensure that students understand the Rule of Law in practice (Fundamental British Values)

Our school uniform is:

- A navy hoody, without a school logo
- A white polo shirt or a white t shirt, without a school logo

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination:

My Choice School will provide the hoody and polo shirt to **all** students at **no additional cost** to their parents or carers and they can be replaced whenever they need to; whether students have grown or whether wear and tear has taken its toll.

My Choice School does not request that specific clothing is worn based on sex or gender.

My Choice School allows all students to have long hair; however this will need to be tied back for sports or some craft and science activities.

My Choice School allows students to style their hair in a way that is expressive of their identity and makes them feel most comfortable. We also allow students to have nail designs and art as a self expression however nails must be of a reasonable length, suitable to use a keyboard and hold a pen and must not be stiletto shape. Rounded almond, squared or squoval, or

short coffin can be acceptable however it is best that students and parents and carers consult with the Headteacher first regarding nail length and shape. Make up is also permitted however consultation is always best, especially for eyelash extensions. Some eyelash extensions and nails shapes and sizes may not be appropriate for sports and activities.

Students will have to remember however, that if they attend college in Year 10 or Year 11, or take part in work experience then different rules may be applied according to the college or employer and their hair, makeup and nails might need to be changed.

My Choice School allows students to request changes to swimwear or activewear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their gender

My Choice School will allow pupils to wear headscarves and / or other religious garments

My Choice School allows students with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs

In addition to the school uniform of a navy hoody and white polo shirt or white t shirt, students may wear:

- Jeans
- Trousers (including capri or cargo pants)
- Leggings
- Skirts – however short skirts are not appropriate
- Shorts - however very short shorts are not appropriate
- Joggers
- Trainers or similar
- Boots

My Choice School is in a rural location and the ground can be uneven in parts and there are gravel paths. Students may also be able to go on walks or trips with their class during the school day and should have appropriate footwear and outerwear.

My Choice School does not permit:

- Crocs
- Flip Flops
- Sliders or other open toed footwear, including sandals
- Shoes with high heels
- Thin soled ballet slippers
- Work boots with reinforced toe caps

These are hazardous and can cause injury to self and others, from trips and slips, and also from gravel and stoney surfaces.

My Choice School does not permit:

- Clothing with lots of zipped and concealed pockets
- Cropped tops or strappy tops
- Excessive or chunky jewellery such as rings, hooped earrings and bracelets or neck chains.
- Facial piercings are not permitted for under 16s unless parental consent is given and are not safe for a school environment.

Excessive jewellery can cause injury to self and others and pockets can be used to conceal prohibited items.

My Choice School prefers students to not wear:

- Designer, branded or expensive items. We do not supply lockers for students and cannot ensure that items will be secured. The rural location also means that clothing can at times get soiled with mud or grass stains or caught on brambles and branches when on nature walks.
- We have also experienced students attempting to swap or exchange designer brands and this is not permitted.

Parents and carers should consult with the school if they have any queries about what their child can wear or if they require any adaptations. They can contact the Headteacher at any time for a discussion or to request more uniform supplies.

My Choice School recognises that many of our students have not been in school for some time and are not used to wearing uniform. In order to support uniform wearing we provide it free of charge and have chosen comfortable and relaxed clothing.

My Choice School staff will monitor uniform to make sure that all students are in uniform. They will inform the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher of any issues and My Choice School will seek to work with parents and carers to support the wearing of uniform, giving opportunity for students to comply over time however persistent disregard of the uniform rules will result in a formal meeting with parents and carers.

Any additional clothing required for students for sports or activities or educational visits will be discussed with parents and carers with advance notice to avoid unexpected costs or difficulties

Policy Link:

- Behaviour policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

Reviewed May 2024
Annual Review due June 2025