

# School Uniform



<b>Approved by:</b>	Governing Body
<b>Last reviewed on:</b>	April 2022
<b>Next review due by:</b>	April 2024

## **Contents:**

### Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. Roles and responsibilities
3. Cost and availability
4. Religious clothing
5. Equality
6. Complaints and challenges
7. School uniform supplier
8. Uniform assistance
9. Non-compliance
10. School colours
11. The uniform
12. Jewellery
13. School bag
14. Hairstyles
15. Make-up
16. Adverse weather
17. Labelling
18. Monitoring and review

## **1.1. Statement of intent**

Amble First School is committed to promoting equality and value for money, and to ensuring 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.

This 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.

## **2. Legal framework**

2.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- Data Protection Act 2018

2.2. This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2013) 'School uniform'

2.3. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour Policy

## **3. Roles and responsibilities**

3.1. The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

3.2. The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.
- 3.3. Teachers are responsible for:
- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
  - Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
  - Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.
- 3.4. Parents are responsible for:
- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
  - Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
  - Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.
- 3.5. Pupils are responsible for:
- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
  - Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
  - Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

#### **4. Cost and availability**

- 4.1. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the school ensures that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.
- 4.2. The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.
- 4.3. The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible.
- 4.4. The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.
- 4.5. The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms.
- 4.6. Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents struggling to meet the associated costs.

## **5. Religious clothing**

- 5.1. Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community.
- 5.2. The school endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met where possible.
- 5.3. Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

## **6. Equality**

- 6.1. The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.
- 6.2. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of girls' and boys' uniforms are not disproportionate.
- 6.3. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.
- 6.4. Pupils identifying as a member of the opposite sex are able to adapt uniform regulations in discussion with the school.

## **7. Complaints and challenges**

- 7.1. The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.
- 7.2. To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.
- 7.3. When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- 7.4. Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

## **8. School uniform supplier**

- 8.1. Our school uniform supplier is:

- Mapac

MAPAC GROUP LTD, 6 Mowat Estate, Sandown Road, Watford,  
Herts, WD24 7UZ

Tel: 01923 255525

Fax: 01923 250737

## **9. Uniform assistance**

- 9.1. The school supports vulnerable families in accessing school uniforms.
- 9.2. In the summer term, the school will operate a uniform 'swap shop'. We will ask families to donate items of uniform that are in good, used condition. These will then be made available, free of charge, to any families who are in need.
- 9.3. Requests for items of school uniform can be made at any time of the year and will be granted where stock is available. All requests will be treated confidentially.

## **10. Non-compliance**

- 10.1. Teachers are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.
- 10.2. Parents should speak to the class teacher or headteacher if there is a reason why a child is unable to wear any part of the school's uniform. Suitable alternatives will be discussed.

## **11. School colours**

- 11.1. Our school colours are as follows:

- Turquoise
- White
- Black/grey

## **12. The uniform**

- 12.1. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.
- 12.2. Pupils who identify as the opposite sex to their birth sex are permitted to wear the uniform of their preferred gender.
- 12.3. Uniform is as follows:
  - Sweatshirt or cardigan in the school colour, with or without the school logo
  - White/navy polo shirt, with or without the school logo
  - School book bag with school logo or other suitable bag
  - Grey or black trousers
  - Grey or black skirt

- Grey or black shorts
- Blue or yellow gingham dress
- Black shoes

12.4. Trainers are not considered suitable footwear unless worn on a PE day.

12.5. Shoes with high heels are not permitted for safety reasons.

12.6. Sensible plain black shoes must be worn by both boys and girls.

12.7. Skirts must be knee-length.

12.8. Black jeans are not permitted.

12.9. PE kits are as follows:

- School jumper or cardigan, with or without school logo
- White/navy T-shirt or polo shirt, with or without the school logo
- Black or dark coloured shorts
- Black or dark coloured joggers or leggings
- Suitable trainers or sandshoes

12.10. Parents are responsible for ensuring their child comes dressed in their PE kit when needed.

Uniform with the school logo is available from our online supplier, MAPAC. Plain clothing in school colours can be purchased from a number of supermarkets and online stores.

### **13. Jewellery**

13.1. The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.
- A smart/sensible wrist watch.

13.2. Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

13.3. Jewellery should not be worn on PE days and all jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, e.g. during PE lessons and science experiments.

### **14. School bag**

14.1. Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books.. It should hold up to A4-sized work books comfortably without causing any damage. Recommended book bags are available through the school's uniform provider.

- 14.2. School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.
- 14.3. The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

## **15. Hairstyles**

- 15.1. The school reserves the right to make a judgement on the suitability of pupils' hair and appearance.
- 15.2. Extreme hairstyles, such as mohawks and patterned or brightly coloured hair, are unacceptable.
- 15.3. Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds, taking into consideration each individual pupil's scenario.
- 15.4. Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk.
- 15.5. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.
- 15.6. Excessive hair accessories are not to be worn; however, plain hair clips or bands are acceptable.
- 15.7. Hair extensions are not permitted.

## **16. Make-up**

- 16.1. False nails and nail extensions are not permitted.
- 16.2. Only clear nail varnish may be worn.
- 16.3. No pupil is allowed to wear make-up.
- 16.4. Pupils wearing make-up will be required to remove it.
- 16.5. There may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances, at the headteacher's discretion, e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

## **17. Adverse weather**

- 1.1. Everyone working at/attending the school during hot weather conditions is required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible.
- 1.2. This includes wearing:
  - Loose fitting polo shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
  - Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
  - Tops that cover the shoulder area.

- 1.1. During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are advised not to wear their jumpers during heatwaves.
- 1.2. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.
- 1.3. During cold weather, it is recommended that pupils wear scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- 1.4. Pupils are permitted to wear long jogging bottoms and plain hoodies during PE in cold weather.

## **18. Labelling**

- 18.1. All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.
- 18.2. Any lost clothing is taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for one term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

## **19. Monitoring and review**

- 19.1. This policy is reviewed every **two years** by the governing body and the headteacher.
- 19.2. The scheduled review date for this policy is **April 2024.**