



New Mills School

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SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Revision	Authorised by	Date	Adopted by	Date
Draft	D McGloin	July 2015	FGB Min No.13e	16/07/2015
Review	I Withers	June 2021	FGB Min No. 14	08/06/2021
Review	A Hill	May 2024	FGB Min No. 13c 09/07/2024	FGB Min No. 13c 09/07/2024

Revision	Date	Description of Changes
Draft	July 2015	New Policy issue
Review	June 2021	Minor updates including active uniform inclusion
Review	May 2024	New Policy issue

Signed:P Inman..... Chair of Governors Date:09/07/2024.....

1. Aims

We aim to empower everyone to be the best that they can be, optimising their future success, well-being and contribution to society. Engagement with our community is at the heart of all that we do, responding to the needs and aspirations of all our stakeholders to create a friendly and inclusive school community that is rich in variety and diversity.

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

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, 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.
- › Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back to protect the health and safety of the students and those around them).
- › Allow pupils to style their hair in line with their cultural identity and/or their religious beliefs.
- › Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment.
- › Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.
- › Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with [insert staff member's name and contact details], who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' 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/carers

We will do this by:

- › Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- › Avoiding additional footwear costs for P.E.
- › Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- › Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire pre-worn uniform items
- › Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- › Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any issues raised about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

School Uniform

(* only available from Headmasters Schoolwear in New Mills)

- School blazer *
- School tie – available from the school
- Regulation black pleated school skirt * no shorter than knee-length and no longer than mid-calf. Worn correctly e.g. skirt waistband not rolled up. Cycling shorts are permitted under pleated school skirt
- Regulation black tailored trousers; neither skinny, tight nor baggy; nor excessively flared; not denim, brushed denim or canvas fabric
- White shirt (not blouse) – short or long sleeved. Shirts must be long enough to be tucked in at all times
- Plain black socks or plain, black opaque tights. **Black leggings will not be permitted.**
- Sensible plain black shoes/trainer. Footwear must be fully black including soles and laces. **Platform/high heels will not be permitted.**
- **Skirts, trousers and shoes must be practical and formal, not fashion items and worn correctly at all times**

Optional Items

- School jumper or tank top *
- Outdoor Coat – sensible and fit for purpose. Faux-fur, denim, faux-leather, and leather coats are not permitted. Hoodies are not to be used as an outdoor coat.

(* only available from Headmaster's School wear in New Mills)

Blazers must be worn at all times during the school day and to and from school. Teachers may give permission for blazers to be removed in the classroom.

Adverse Weather Conditions

Snow

- Where significant snowfall occurs or is predicted, the Headteacher will decide and communicate reasonable adjustments around footwear.

Significantly higher than average summer temperatures

- On the rare occasion where the local community is experiencing an unusual heatwave, uniform adjustments will be decided by the Headteacher and communicated to parents, careers, and pupils. This might include non-blazer or no tie days and will be communicated on a daily basis during any brief weather fronts.

PE Kit

New Mills School PE kit is as follows:

- Loose black unbranded sport shorts, sports leggings or black unbranded joggers
- Red polo shirt with school badge **
- Non-marking footwear for indoor PE
- Trainers for PE
- Red New Mills logo hoodie ** – Hoods must be worn down

(Due to the statutory right to physical exercise, P.E. kit will be provided to students who arrive without their kit)

Particular items for particular sports:

- Mouth guard for rugby and hockey

- Football boots for outdoor PE

(** only available from Headmasters School wear):

Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery which may be worn is:

- 1 pair of earrings – studs only. No other piercings are permitted to be worn.
- 1 ring
- 1 wristwatch – not a smart watch.

Facial piercings including eyebrow, lip and nose studs are not permitted on the site by students as a result of health and safety concerns. If parents allow students to have such piercings, these should be done at the beginning of the summer holiday to enable the removal of the studs before the start of the new term.

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

Accessories

- Headbands must be plain black.
- Hair accessories must be plain black and practical. Large bows are not permitted.
- Belts must be plain black and must not have additional adornments such as studs
- Adornments relating to charities are only permitted when it is a school-based initiative. For example, wrist bands, badges, keyrings etc
- Appropriate, inoffensive badges are to be worn on school bags only

Items banned include but are not limited to:

- Hats - other than for the walk to and from school, unless specific permission given
- Hoodies (except for New Mills School P.E. hoodie or a Year 11 leavers' hoodie. The Headteacher reserves the right to decide on the date of the issue of leavers' hoodies and whether they can be worn at school. Year 11 leavers' hoodies are not permitted in exams)

Cosmetics

- False nails and nail extensions are not permitted
- Only clear nail varnish may be worn
- Make up to be kept to a minimum, light and natural
- Students deemed to be wearing excessive make-up will be required to remove the excess

Hair styles

New Mills School does not discriminate against culturally significant hairstyles

- Students are not permitted to have letters or words (or other shapes such as Nike ticks) shaved into their hair.
- Hair colour must be that of natural shades. However, extreme combinations of natural hair colours are not permitted
- Students with long hair must tie their hair back in for all practical activities for health and safety reasons including P.E., technology, catering, and science practical work

School Bags

Students must use an appropriately sized resistant bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold A4 sized work books comfortably and without causing any damage.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Branded New Mills School items (Blazer, P.E. hoodie, P.E. polo shirt, V-neck jumper and V-neck tank top) are available from Headmasters Schoolwear

11 Union Road

New Mills

SK22 3EL

[01663 749526](tel:01663749526)

info@headmasters-schoolwear.co.uk

[Headmasters Schoolwear \(headmasters-schoolwear.co.uk\)](http://headmasters-schoolwear.co.uk)

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)

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/carers are also expected to contact ahill@inewmillsschool.co.uk if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to the cost of the school uniform

5.3 Staff

Non-compliance to the uniform policy

The enforcement of the decision to adopt a school uniform is the responsibility of the Headteacher as part of her overall responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school and for the maintenance of discipline.

We expect students to arrive to school in their full uniform, ready to learn.

- Students may be asked to wear an item of clothing or footwear from our clean school stock of uniform and receive a sanction
- Persistent refusal to comply with this policy and wear school uniform correctly will result in sanction escalation
- Parents/carers will be contacted to help correct their child's uniform if it does not comply with this policy.
- Failure to correct uniform by non-compliance may result in the student being out of main-stream school circulation until uniform is corrected
- Parents/carers will be notified to ensure that the student wears the correct uniform the following school day.

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/carers and pupils
- › Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Policy Amendments

It is important to note that the Headteacher reserves the right to make changes to the policy should the need arise. A number of factors could influence change including but not limited to: Government legislation, procedural changes at authority level, OFSTED recommendations. Governors, parents and other relevant stakeholders would be notified of any policy amendments.

7. Monitoring and review

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the School Uniform Policy through its committee work. The policy is formally reviewed every 2 years.

8. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Ready to Learn Behaviour policy
- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Anti-bullying policy
- › Complaints policy