

Mark Rutherford School



Uniform Policy

Author:	K. Foster/M.Tyler
Governor's Committee:	Curriculum and Standards
Signed (Headteacher):	
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POLICY AIMS

At Mark Rutherford School (MRS) we have high expectations of all, in everything we do. This includes personal appearance. Uniform plays an important role in establishing the ethos of a school and at MRS we believe that our uniform policy benefits the school in a number of ways:

- It encourages identity with the school and nurtures the notion of community.
- It protects students from social pressures to dress in a particular way.
- It supports discipline and good behaviour and ensures the health and safety of students.
- It instils a sense of pride in the school.
- It promotes more effective teaching and learning.

We have carefully considered and analysed the impact of this policy on equality and the possible implications for pupils with protected characteristics, as part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED) requirement to have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, advance equality of opportunity and foster good relations.

Due to the changing trends/fashions we reserve the right as a school to identify throughout the year when uniform worn is deemed inappropriate and sanction appropriately in line with our Behaviour for Learning policy.

If there are any difficulties with purchasing items of uniform, parents/carers should make contact with their child's Head of Year, so that the school can support the family finding a solution.

Student Responsibility:

- We expect students at MRS to adhere to our school uniform policy.
- To recognise that it is the public face of MRS and that it should be worn correctly and with pride, including when they arrive at and leave the school.
- To appreciate that uniform infringements will result in a verbal reminder and continued non-compliance will result in a sanction.
- Items of clothing that do not follow the uniform policy may be confiscated and replaced with spare school uniform items.

Parent/Carer Responsibility:

- We welcome parent/carers support in the purchase of items of clothing that follow our uniform policy.
- To ensure all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.
- That the school is informed if there is a problem concerning uniform.
- To remind their child, as they leave home, of the uniform policy and ensure they are adhering to this.
- To email the Tutor, Head of Year or Assistant Head of Year about any uniform infringements for medical reasons so that they can notify teachers and put a note on Class Charts.

Tutor Responsibility:

- To ensure that all students leave tutor bases appropriately dressed for the day.
- To confiscate items which do not conform to the school's uniform policy. Such items will be placed in the tutor group's safe until the end of the school day.
- To make contact with parents/carers where there have been issues identified with uniform.

- To report continued non-compliance with uniform to the Head of Year.

Class/Subject Teacher responsibilities:

- To ensure students arrive and enter your classroom appropriately dressed.
- To ensure that students leave your classroom appropriately dressed.
- To check that students with uniform infringements have a note on Class Charts.
- To check that students incorrectly dressed/without a note are reported to the Tutor.

All Staff Responsibilities:

- To regularly speak to students when their uniform is not as it should be around school.
- To remind and encourage students to wear our school uniform correctly.
- To confiscate items that do not comply with the MRS uniform policy and ensure they are handed in to pastoral teams/main reception for safe storage in the safe.
- To report non-compliance to the form tutor and Head of Year.

Pastoral Responsibilities:

- To speak to students in their year group about the expectations for standards of uniform; this may be done through assembly.
- To challenge students who do not adhere to our uniform policy.
- To contact parents/carers if there is non-compliance regarding uniform.
- To offer the student spare uniform if they don't have the correct items of uniform.
- To send the student home to find/collect the correct item of uniform, where appropriate.
- To support the student if there is financial hardship that prevents the student from following our uniform policy.
- To issue sanctions for non-compliance with our uniform policy, this may include being placed on a **'Persistent uniform violations' contract**.
- To support the form tutor in the enforcement of our uniform policy.

Senior Leadership Team's Responsibilities:

- To support staff in the implementation of the school's uniform policy.
- To challenge students who dress inappropriately and issue an appropriate sanction for non-compliance.

ADDITIONAL IMPORTANT INFORMATION

MRS will carefully consider any request that is made to vary the policy to meet the needs of an individual student. This may be to accommodate their religious belief or any temporary or permanent medical conditions, in order to avoid breaches of disability discrimination legislation.

The Headteacher or person authorised by the Headteacher has the right to send a student home, briefly and where appropriate, to put on the correct uniform or otherwise adjust their appearance in line with the school's uniform policy. The school must first inform the student's parents/carers and consider factors such as the student's age, vulnerability, availability of the parent/carer and how easily the breach can be remedied. When this is done it will constitute authorised absence.

In the first instance, we will offer spare uniform items (including shoes) to any student who does not have the correct uniform. All items are cleaned regularly and shoes will be disinfected after each use. If

a student does not have a medical reason or specific individual needs, refuses to wear the spare uniform or refuses to go home to change, or commits uniform offences (even where they do not otherwise display poor behaviour), the school has the right to sanction the student. Some examples of acceptable sanctions include;

- Detention.
- Internal Exclusion.
- Suspension (this will happen where the breaches of the school's uniform policy are persistent and defiant).

The school reserves the right to confiscate items of clothing or jewellery that do not fall within our uniform policy as per the DfE's [Searching, screening and confiscation: Advice for schools](#) document (July 2022).

SCHOOL UNIFORM – MARK RUTHERFORD SCHOOL

Parent/carer support in taking responsibility for their child(ren) attending in correct uniform is essential. Our uniform is BLACK in colour. Many items can be bought at chain or high street stores, online and also from our uniform supplier.

Students' Uniform

Students are required to wear a plain black skirt which is of an appropriate length and close to the knee - this cannot be lycra or bodycon/contour in style. Parents/carers are advised to ensure their child's skirt fits correctly on the hips and is of an appropriate length. Please see the images below of skirts that are deemed appropriate, as a guide.



Students can either wear plain black opaque tights or plain non-branded black or white ankle socks.

Plain black trousers are also deemed appropriate. These cannot be jeans, leggings, jeggings, cropped, jogging bottoms or cargo style.

Summer Term Uniform

In the **summer term** students are permitted to wear smart black tailored shorts. As a school we may make the decision due to extreme weather that students can wear their school polo shirts, but with their PE kit as their bottom half. If students choose not to wear their PE shorts, they are not allowed to wear PE trainers.

The table below outlines the mandatory items for all students.

Item	Requirement/Expectations
Sky blue polo shirt with blue school crest (*)	To be worn all year round.
Black V-neck jumper with the school crest (*)	Jumpers must be worn traveling to and from school and between lessons. The jumper is compulsory from September to Easter unless the school emails parents/ carers in the event of warm weather. There is an option to wear a branded jumper that is of sweatshirt material, to support those with sensory needs.
Black shoes	 Black shoes must be worn to school, they must be leather or leather-look and must not contain any colours other than black, including laces, logos and soles. Canvas shoes may not be worn.
Outdoor coat	We would expect all students to wear a coat outside when the weather is cold. These do not need to be purchased from our suppliers. No hoodies, sports sweatshirts or zipped sports tops are to be worn on the school site.

(*) This indicates items of uniform that must be purchased from school uniform suppliers (please see page 7).

Makeup and Nail Varnish

Makeup and nail varnish may be worn for school but it must be discreet and in keeping with a working environment. Spot/pimple patches may be worn if they are transparent/discreet (not the coloured/patterned options)

Nail Length

Nails must be of a practical length to comply with health and safety regulations. False or acrylic nails are not permitted to be worn in school and students will be asked to remove them. If nails are inappropriate, students may not be permitted to take part in practical lessons like PE, Dance and Design and Technology

Jewellery

Students may wear a watch and a small pair of stud earrings. Students will be asked to remove earrings which hang below the ear. A necklace may be worn provided it is tucked inside of the shirt. Students are

permitted to wear one small stud nose piercing. Other facial piercings and tattoos are not permitted. Other items of jewellery are not permitted when in school. Students will be asked to remove jewellery that breaks this rule. All jewellery must be removed for PE.

Hairstyles

Students' hairstyles should be neat and practical for school and should be a natural hair colour. Extremes of style, patterns and tracks will not be permitted. Students are not permitted to dye their hair unnatural colours such as blue, pink or green. Parents/carers will be contacted and sanctions may be enforced until the hairstyle is rectified. This includes complete shaving of one side of the head and dip-dyeing

Headwear

Students may wear a head covering for religious observance. Headwear worn in school for religious observance must be in either black or navy and should be fastened in a way that the buttons of the polo shirt can be seen (at no point should the school crest on uniform be covered). Students may wear a plain black headband. Students are not permitted to wear hats, caps or any other head coverings inside the school building.

Physical Education Uniform

Please refer to the uniform checklist on the following page for items required for PE lessons.

Studded boots with rubber studs are a compulsory piece of kit for all students in order to be able to access our 3G pitch.

All students must remove watches and jewellery for PE lessons, extra-curricular sport and fixtures to comply with health and safety regulations from the AfPE (Association for Physical Education). Long hair must be tied up and nails must be at a suitable, safe length.

SCHOOL UNIFORM SUPPLIER

No Limitz is our uniform supplier for mandatory branded items.

Website: [Mark Rutherford School - No Limitz](#)

Address:

25 Shuttleworth Road
Bedford
MK41 0HS

Telephone Number: 01234 350720

Email: shop@nolimitz.co.uk

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM SHOP

Mark Rutherford School have a commitment to ensuring pre-loved uniform is available. We recognise the importance of this on the grounds of being environmentally friendly and also providing families with an opportunity to acquire uniform at a significantly reduced cost. We also have some pre-loved uniform stock held in school – for information on donating and items in stock please contact: preloveduniform@mrus.co.uk

UNIFORM CHECKLIST – YEARS 7 TO 11

MAIN UNIFORM	PURCHASE FROM
Black V-neck jumper with school logo (compulsory item)	No Limitz
Sky blue polo shirt with school logo (compulsory item)	No Limitz
Black skirt	Anywhere
Black trousers	Anywhere
Black tailored shorts (summer term only)	Anywhere
Black shoes	Anywhere
Plain black socks/tights	Anywhere

GIRLS PE ITEMS	PURCHASE FROM
Blue PE tech top with school logo (compulsory item)	No Limitz
Black ¼ zip outdoor top with school logo (optional) as an alternative a plain black (small brand logo only, no stripes etc.) ¼ zip sports top may be worn	No Limitz
Plain black tracksuit bottoms	Anywhere
Plain black shorts	Anywhere
Plain black sports leggings or black opaque leggings	Anywhere
Plain black games socks	Anywhere
Plain black or white sports ankle socks	Anywhere
Sport footwear – trainers and football boots (required for 3G)	Anywhere
Shin pads	Anywhere

BOYS PE ITEMS	PURCHASE FROM
Blue PE tech top with school logo (compulsory item)	No Limitz
Black ¼ zip outdoor top with school logo (optional) as an alternative a plain black (small brand logo only, no stripes etc.) ¼ zip sports top may be worn	No Limitz
Plain black tracksuit bottoms	Anywhere
Plain black shorts	Anywhere
Plain black games socks	Anywhere
Plain black or white sports ankle socks	Anywhere
Sport footwear – trainers and football boots (required for 3G)	Anywhere
Shin pads	Anywhere

- Students may wear a base layer/underarmour underneath their PE tech top as an additional layer. Base layers must be plain black or white in colour.
- Trainers must be appropriate for sporting activity and must be supportive, therefore Converse and similar styles are not acceptable.
- Cycling shorts and similar short/fitted versions are **not appropriate** as shorts options for PE.

ESSENTIAL DAILY EQUIPMENT

A sturdy bag, suitable for carrying books and equipment

Pupil Planner (provided by school)

Pencil case with minimum required: pens, pencils, ruler, eraser, highlighter pen, glue stick, calculator (essential for all Maths lessons – recommended Casio FX83GT CW)

Reading book

Water bottle