

Marsh Green Primary School

Uniform Policy

2026 - 2027



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Clear, inclusive and affordable expectations for all pupils

School Name	Marsh Green Primary School
Headteacher	Natalie Sanchez
Approved by	Governing Body
Approval date	September 2026
Next review	September 2027

Our commitment

Uniform must never become a barrier to attendance, participation or a family choosing Marsh Green. Families who need support are encouraged to contact the school in confidence.

1. Purpose and principles

At Marsh Green Primary School, school uniform is compulsory. We believe that a smart, practical and affordable uniform promotes a sense of belonging, equality and pride in our school, while helping pupils to be ready for learning.

This policy sets out our expectations clearly for current and prospective families. It has been written with regard to Department for Education guidance on school uniform, affordability, branded items, equality and the availability of second-hand uniform.

2. Aims

- promote a strong sense of school identity and belonging
- ensure pupils are dressed safely and appropriately for learning and physical activity
- provide clear expectations for each phase of the school
- ensure uniform is affordable and represents good value for money
- minimise compulsory branded items and give families a wide choice of retailers
- support equality, inclusion and reasonable adjustments
- ensure that uniform concerns are handled sensitively and do not create unnecessary barriers to attendance

3. Uniform expectations

All pupils should attend school wearing the correct uniform unless the school has authorised a specific non-uniform event or agreed an individual adaptation.

3.1 Early Years: Nursery and Reception

Item	Status	Branding
Purple polo shirt / collared T-shirt	Required	Plain or school logo
Black or green jogging bottoms	Required	Plain
Green sweatshirt or cardigan	Required	Plain or school logo
Plain black trainers	Required	Plain

3.2 Years 1–6

Item	Status	Branding
White polo shirt / collared T-shirt	Required	Plain or school logo
Grey trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore	Required	Plain
Green sweatshirt or cardigan	Required	Plain or school logo
Grey, black or white socks; or grey tights	Required	Plain
Plain black school shoes	Required	Plain
Green gingham summer dress	Optional in warm weather	Plain

3.3 PE and activity uniform: Years 1–6

Pupils should come to school wearing their PE/activity uniform on the day advised by their year group. The PE uniform is:

- plain white T-shirt with no buttons
- plain black shorts
- green jogging bottoms on top of the black shorts
- green sweatshirt or cardigan
- plain black trainers or plimsolls

No item of PE kit is required to carry the school logo.

4. Branded and optional items

No compulsory branded items

Marsh Green does not require families to purchase any item carrying the school logo. Plain items in the specified colours and styles are fully acceptable.

Logo versions of the green sweatshirt or cardigan may be purchased if families choose. The following additional branded items are also available, but are optional:

- green fleece
- green reversible jacket
- book bag
- rucksack

Equivalent suitable unbranded alternatives are permitted. Optional branded items do not replace any requirement to ensure that clothing, bags and outerwear are safe, practical and appropriate for school.

5. Purchasing uniform

Plain uniform items may be purchased from any supermarket, high-street shop, online retailer or second-hand provider. Families are free to choose the retailer that offers the best combination of price, fit, quality and convenience.

Optional branded uniform is available from:

Castle Green Uniform Shop

Castle Green at Jo Richardson Community School, Gale Street, Dagenham, Essex, RM9 4UN

Saturday opening: 10.00am–2.00pm

Order and collection: Monday–Friday 4.00pm–9.00pm; Saturday and Sunday 9.00am–4.00pm

Telephone: 020 8724 1500 | Email: uniformshop@castle-green.org.uk

Online: www.castle-green.org.uk/uniform-shop

6. Cost and value for money

The school and governing body give high priority to affordability and value for money. We recognise that children grow quickly and that families may need more than one of some items. We therefore:

- do not require any compulsory branded uniform item
- permit generic uniform to be purchased from a wide range of retailers
- use simple, widely available colours and styles
- do not require a branded PE kit, coat, bag or footwear
- consider the total cost of the full uniform as well as the cost of individual items
- consider quality, durability, sustainability and the ability to pass items on
- review requirements and supplier arrangements regularly
- make second-hand uniform available and encourage donations of good-quality items

The school will avoid making significant changes to uniform without considering the financial impact on families and, where appropriate, consulting parents and pupils.

7. Second-hand uniform

Good-quality second-hand uniform is available through the school. This arrangement is open to all current and prospective families and is intended both to reduce costs and to support sustainability.

- Families may donate clean, good-quality uniform that their children have outgrown.
- Families may contact the school office to request available items discreetly.
- Items are provided subject to availability.
- Information about our Pre-Loved Uniform shop will be provided on the school website and on ParentMail.

8. Equality, religion, disability and medical needs

Marsh Green is committed to equality and inclusion. We will consider reasonable exceptions or adaptations where the standard uniform would disadvantage a pupil because of religion or belief, disability, sensory need, medical condition, temporary injury or another individual need.

Examples may include:

- religious headwear in green, black or a neutral colour
- alternative lengths, styles or layers to meet religious or modesty requirements
- adapted or alternative footwear for disability, medical or mobility needs
- different fabrics, fastenings or garments to meet sensory or physical needs
- temporary alternatives following an injury, operation or medical treatment

Parents and carers should contact the school so that the pupil's needs can be discussed sensitively and an appropriate arrangement agreed. The school will not discriminate unlawfully and will take account of its duties under the Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998.

9. Footwear, jewellery, hair and appearance

- Pupils in Years 1–6 must wear plain black school shoes each day. Plain black trainers are permitted on PE days only, unless an adjustment has been agreed.
- Early Years pupils should wear plain black trainers.
- Jewellery, including earrings, must not be worn for health and safety reasons. Families considering ear piercing should arrange this at the beginning of the summer holiday so earrings can be removed before pupils return to school in September.
- Smart watches and other wearable devices with communication or recording functions are not permitted.
- Long hair should be tied back when required for safety or hygiene. Hair accessories should be simple and practical.
- All clothing, shoes, bags and personal belongings should be clearly named.

10. Non-uniform and special event days

The school may hold authorised non-uniform, themed or fundraising days. Expectations will be shared in advance. Clothing must remain safe, suitable for school and appropriate for the planned activities. A pupil's participation will not depend on making a voluntary contribution.

11. Support for families

Please speak to us

Families experiencing difficulty obtaining uniform should contact the school office or a member of the senior leadership team in confidence. The school will seek to support the family through second-hand uniform, temporary arrangements or other appropriate assistance.

12. Responding to concerns and non-compliance

The school will work with pupils and families to understand the reason for incorrect or missing uniform. Staff will respond proportionately and sensitively, particularly where there may be financial hardship, SEND, medical needs, family circumstances or difficulties accessing clean uniform.

Where a pupil repeatedly wears incorrect uniform without an agreed reason, the school will contact parents and seek a practical solution. Uniform concerns will be addressed in line with the school's Behaviour Policy, equality duties and commitment to good attendance. A pupil will not be prevented from accessing education simply because a family is experiencing financial difficulty.

13. Roles and responsibilities

The governing body will:

- approve and review this policy
- have regard to statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms
- ensure the policy complies with the legal limit on compulsory branded items
- monitor affordability, accessibility and equality considerations

The Headteacher and staff will:

- apply the policy consistently, fairly and sensitively
- ensure families know where to obtain new and second-hand uniform
- consider reasonable adjustments and individual circumstances
- avoid allowing uniform issues to become an unnecessary barrier to attendance or participation

Parents and carers are asked to:

- ensure their child attends in the correct uniform
- label all items clearly
- contact the school promptly if support or an adjustment is needed
- return or donate outgrown uniform where possible

Pupils are expected to:

- wear their uniform with pride
- look after their clothing and belongings
- follow health and safety expectations for PE, jewellery and footwear

14. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed regularly and whenever there is a significant change to legislation or national guidance. The review will consider affordability, value for money, availability of second-hand uniform, equality and the views of the school community.

15. Related guidance and policies

- Department for Education: Cost of school uniforms – statutory guidance
- Department for Education: Developing school uniform policy
- Equality Act 2010
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Marsh Green Behaviour Policy
- Marsh Green Equality Information and Objectives
- Marsh Green Accessibility Plan