



Mendell Primary School

Aspire Challenge Achieve

School Uniform Policy

This policy has been written in conjunction with the Government Guidance on school uniform which can be found here: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>

Our uniform requirements consist of:

White collared shirt (long or short sleeved) (year 1-6)

Red and grey striped tie (years 1-6)

White polo shirt (F1 & F2 only)

Grey shorts/trousers/skirt/pinafore

Grey V neck sweatshirt or grey sweater-cardigan

Black shoes (not trainers)



PE Kit:

Red sports shorts

White PE shirt (round neck)

Outdoor red hooded top

Outdoor red tracksuit bottoms

Black Pumps and/or black trainers



Coats (reversible waterproof coats or fleeces), hats, book bags, PE bags and rucksacks are also all available with the Mendell logo however, are not a requirement.

Where can I buy Mendell School uniform?

Generic items such as shirts, trousers, shorts etc can be purchased from most supermarkets.

Items with the embroidered school logo on them can be purchased from:

- ID uniforms; Hoylake
- Wirral Uniform Centre; Birkenhead
- The Other Uniform Store; Brimstage

School ties can be purchased directly from the school office.

FAQs

Q Can the children wear red gingham dresses in summer?

A No, the children will wear short sleeved shirts in summer. This is one less thing for parents to buy.

Q What coloured tights can children wear?

A. Red/black/grey tights. Children can choose white or grey socks.

Q Do children in F2 wear a tie?

A No. Children in F1&F2 wear an embroidered polo shirt without a tie. Children in year 1-6 wear a shirt and tie.

Q Do the PE shirts, polo shirts, jumpers and cardigans need to be embroidered?

A We would prefer this as it will look smarter.

Q Are hair accessories still allowed?

A Red, white and grey hair accessories will be allowed.

Q Why is there only one uniform provider?

A There is not only one provider. ID Uniforms are our preferred providers due to quality and pricing. However, you are welcome to purchase uniform elsewhere.



Q Why are there no 'inbetween' sizes? E.g. aged 9-10, 11-12

A The sizes from ID Uniform are generous and therefore an aged 9-10 jumper would fit an 'average sized' child who is 10. Again, we hope this will mean you purchasing fewer jumpers/cardigans as they will last longer.

Q Can children have their names embroidered on their cardigans/sweaters underneath the logo?

A Yes parents can choose this if they wish however, writing a child's name on the label inside will also suffice.

<p align="center"><u>Government Guidance taken from 'Cost of School Uniforms'</u></p>	<p align="center"><u>Mendell Primary's Response</u></p>
<p>Summary: This is statutory guidance from the Department for Education. This means that schools and their governing boards must have regard to it when developing and implementing their school and trust uniform policies. The purpose of this guidance is to ensure the cost of school uniforms is reasonable and secures the best value for money.</p>	
<p>- It is for the governing board to decide whether there should be a school uniform policy and if so, what that should be.</p> <p>- We strongly encourage schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● promoting the ethos of a school ● providing a sense of belonging and identity ● setting an appropriate tone for education ● By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. If, however, the uniform is too expensive it can place an unreasonable burden on families. Furthermore, if a distinction can be made between those who can afford it and those who cannot, this can reduce the benefits of a uniform and has the potential to negatively impact attendance, access and participation, and lead to bullying. ● Schools should avoid frequent changes to uniform specifications. ● Does not preclude schools from having a standard PE kit for PE lessons. 	<p>At Mendell Primary School we do have uniform requirements because:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - we want to develop of sense of 'TEAM' and belonging - we believe if children dress smartly, they behave smartly - dressing in uniform sets an expectation for behaviour for learning - we want children to focus on their work, not worry about what they are wearing which could be the case if the school had no uniform <p>Our uniform requirements have taken into account financial considerations and we believe offer good value for money by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - including many generic items that can be bought in many supermarkets - removal of unnecessary uniform requirements such as additional summer dresses when short sleeved shirts can be worn. <p>Mendell Primary School changed the uniform in 2018.</p> <p>Mendell Primary do have PE kit expectations as well as uniform requirements.</p>
<p>Branded items</p> <p>- The term 'branded item' is <u>not</u> just an item with a logo. It is used to describe an item of clothing with distinctive characteristics which make it unique to the school or trust. As a general rule, if an item cannot be purchased at a range of retailers it is likely to be a branded item. For instance, a sweatshirt with a specific coloured trim, or trousers with a unique style which are therefore only available from a specific supplier, would be classed as branded items. In comparison, a grey cardigan with a logo that can be bought from a variety of retailers would not be considered a branded item.</p> <p>- Generic items which are widely available (including from low-cost outlets) give parents choice and allows them to control the cost of school uniforms. As such, schools should keep branded items to a minimum and limit their use to low cost or long-lasting items.</p> <p>- To avoid parents having to purchase multiple expensive items such as coats, bags, and trainers, which they may already have purchased for use on non-school days, schools should avoid being overly specific about such items in their uniform policy. certain school colours would be unnecessary. Similarly, schools should be mindful of the cost implication for parents when they make requirements on what is deemed appropriate footwear, including footwear required for sport.</p>	<p>- Mendell Primary School has <u>no</u> branded items.</p> <p>- We expect children to wear sweaters/cardigans with the school logo embroidered on it because this looks smarter.</p> <p>- Uniform providers also offer the school logo embroidered on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Polo t-shirts (for children in EYFS) ● Coats/ fleeces ● Book bags ● Hats ● Rucksacks <p>- Our uniform has many generic items that are widely available including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Long sleeved shirts ● Short sleeved shirts ● Skirts ● Dresses/pinafores ● Trousers ● Shorts ● Socks ● Tights ● Coats ● Shoes
<p>PE kit</p> <p>- When developing their school's PE kit, governing boards should apply the same consideration to cost as they would for the everyday items in their uniform. Schools should avoid being overly specific in their kit requirements for different sports and</p>	<p>- Mendell Primary School has <u>no</u> branded items in its PE kit.</p> <p>- We prefer children to have embroidered PE kit; uniform providers offer the school logo embroidered on:</p>

<p>keep the number of items, particularly the number of branded items, to a minimum. For instance, it may be appropriate to have both shorts and tracksuit bottoms but specifying different shorts for football and hockey would be unnecessary. No pupil should feel unable to participate fully in PE or represent their class or school because the PE kit is too expensive.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE T-Shirts ● PE Hoodies <p>- Uniform providers also offer the school logo embroidered on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PE bags <p>- Our PE kit has many generic items that are widely available including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Red PE shorts ● Red jogging bottoms ● PE pumps ● Black trainers
<p>Arrangements for the supply of uniforms</p> <p>- Cost and value for money for parents should be the most important consideration for governing boards when considering how school uniforms should be sourced. Parents should be able to purchase generic items of uniform from a range of retailers giving them choice and value for money. Reviewing a policy does not necessarily have to result in changes being made.</p>	<p>- Parents are able to purchase generic items of uniform from a range of retailers giving them choice and value for money.</p> <p>- For embroidered items, parents are able to choose from a range of uniform shops on the Wirral. We do not have one supplier however, we can recommend uniform from ID uniforms in Hoylake for quality, fit and longevity. If you are unable to get to this shop in person, you are able to order online and have items delivered.</p>
<p>Provision of second-hand uniforms</p> <p>- Second-hand uniforms can benefit all parents, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable. Schools should ensure that arrangements are in place so that second-hand school uniforms are available for parents to acquire. It is for the school to decide how this will be best achieved.</p> <p>- While schools can decide the particular method they are going to use to make the provision of second-hand uniforms available to parents, all schools should ensure that information on second hand uniforms is clear for parents of current and prospective pupils and published on the school's website. This should clearly state where second-hand uniforms are available to be purchased.</p>	<p>- At Mendell Primary School we have a 'Mendell Uniform Shop' which sells second hand uniform for £1 per item. This is located next to our Mendell Pantry. If you would like to use the uniform shop, please come to the school office.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;">   </div>
<p>Other support with the cost of school uniforms</p> <p>- Local authorities and trusts might choose to provide school clothing grants to help with the cost of school clothing in cases of financial hardship. In some cases, individual schools may run their own schemes to provide assistance.</p>	<p>- At Mendell Primary we have access to funding streams that can support families who are going through a tricky time financially. If you would like support financially with School Uniform or PE kits, please contact the school office in person, by phone or by emailing schooloffice@mendell.wirral.sch.uk We will treat you with respect, with confidentiality and will support you where we can.</p>
<p>Providing information to parents</p> <p>A school's uniform policy should be:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● published on the school's website ● available for all parents, including parents of prospective pupils ● easily understood <p>- If an item needs to meet specific requirements, for instance, smart black shoes, then this should be clearly stated.</p> <p>- The published uniform policy should clearly state whether each item is optional or required. If the item is only used in certain circumstances or at particular times of the year, then this should be made clear.</p> <p>- The policy should also make clear whether a generic item will be accepted or if a branded item is required.</p> <p>- Schools should include sufficient information so that a parent is clear whether an item can only be purchased from a specific retailer or if it can be purchased more widely, including from second-hand retailers.</p>	<p>This policy is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● on our school website ● shared with parents via newsletters ● shared with parents via class dojo ● shared with new parents during welcome meetings/ walk arounds <p>- School require black school shoes, not trainers. Black pumps or trainers for PE.</p> <p>- School require grey sweaters/ cardigans to have the logo embroidered on them. We require children in year 1-6 to wear a tie. We prefer PE t-shirts and PE hoodies to have the logo embroidered.</p> <p>- Generic items: skirt, dress, pinafore, trousers, shorts, short sleeved short, long sleeved shirt, tights, socks, shoes, pumps, trainers, PE short, PE track suit bottoms</p> <p>- See page 1.</p>

