



'OPENING DOORS OF
OPPORTUNITY TOGETHER'

UNIFORM POLICY

NOVEMBER 2024



Uniform Policy

School Mission Statement

Meadow Bridge Primary School aims to foster a safe, happy, and caring environment where each child's personal development is nurtured. Every child's educational journey is enhanced, and their lives enriched through stimulating learning experiences. Equal emphasis will be placed on pastoral care and on ensuring each individual reaches his or her academic potential, equipping them for the future.

Introduction

It is our policy and expectation that all children should wear the school uniform when attending Meadow Bridge Primary School, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

We provide a complete list of the items needed for the uniform on the school website. We endeavour to ensure that the uniform is affordable for families.

Our school uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports our high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. Where other differences exist, it promotes uniformity and harmony. It enhances security, assisting school to identify its pupils easily when out of school grounds on trips or attending events.

It is school's belief that the wearing of a school uniform by pupils, helps promote effective discipline and therefore contributes to more effective learning and teaching.

Aims and Objectives

Our policy is based on the view that a school uniform:

- creates a professional learning environment;
- engenders a feeling of community, belonging; and identity, as pupils are all part of the same team;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- eliminates the distraction of fashion;
- places children on a level playing field, reducing the pressure to wear the latest fashionable brands, therefore contributing to self-confidence and wellbeing;
- promotes inclusivity by removing the differences in clothing that may exist between pupils from different economic backgrounds;
- is cost effective; and
- is designed with comfort and health and safety in mind.

Our School Uniform

The Meadow Bridge sweatshirt is teal in colour with the Meadow Bridge logo embroidered on the front. It is available from McCall's, Market Street, Lisburn, and can be ordered online by clicking [here](#).

Our uniform consists of:

Boys:

- Teal sweatshirt with official logo
- White polo shirt
- Mid-grey (*not charcoal*) trousers
- Grey or dark coloured socks
- Black shoes

Girls:

- Teal sweatshirt with official logo
- White polo shirt
- Mid-grey (*not charcoal*) skirt, pinafore, or trousers
- Mid-grey tights or white socks
- Black shoes (*no heels*)

The above specification is for everyday wearing. For more formal occasions, eg choir events, children will be expected to wear a white shirt with the Meadow Bridge tie which can be purchased from the aforementioned shop or online.

Girls may wear green checked summer dresses from April until the end of September, whilst boys may wear grey shorts if they wish.

PE Kit

Children will also require navy/black shorts, a plain white t-shirt, and gym shoes/trainers which are suitable for PE.

They will wear PE uniform to school on the two days per week on which they have PE.

We aim to present our school in the best possible way at all times and maintain a high standard in relation to uniform. Given that the PE uniform is worn on such a very regular basis, we encourage parents to consider purchasing the Meadow Bridge PE kit and tracksuit, if possible. The days on which the children will have PE will be advised at the beginning of the academic year.

Alternatively, in cooler weather children may come to school wearing plain black or navy jogging bottoms/leggings, a white t-shirt, and their school jumper on the two days each week when they have PE.

Eco-Committee School Uniform Sales

School also welcomes donations of items of uniform and PE kit in good condition, which are no longer required, making these available at minimal cost to families whilst also supporting school's eco initiative.

Long Hair

It may be necessary for pupils to tie long hair back during PE activities (ie swimming and gymnastics) if the length of a child's hair is deemed to be a concern due to health and safety considerations.

The Principal/Governors will refer to ***'The Association for Physical Education's Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport'*** document for guidance in matters that may present themselves in the future and are not included in this policy. The Governors will use this guidance to inform policy making or to make changes to policy should the need arise.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are small stud earrings in pierced ears. However, the wearing of studs is also strongly discouraged due to health and safety concerns. Please note that it is the policy of Lagan Valley Leisureplex Leisure Swimming Instructors that pupils are not permitted to participate in the Schools' Swimming Programme if they are wearing jewellery of any kind.

Please note that watches are not considered items of jewellery and may be worn. However, depending on the activity, it may be appropriate for children to be asked to remove their watches on health and safety grounds. Smart watches with either audio or video recording capabilities are not permitted.

Make-Up

Make-Up is not permitted and therefore should not be worn.

The Role of Parents/Carers

We ask all parents who send their children to our school for their support of this School Uniform Policy. We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents/carers are also asked to label all items of clothing clearly with their child's name to minimise additional cost for replacing lost items.

Uniform/PE Uniform Grant

Financial assistance is available for school uniform and PE uniform through the Education Authority for certain categories of pupils attending primary schools. Further details are available from the Education Authority. Visit www.eani.org.uk (in the search bar type 'Uniform Grant').

The Role of Governors

The Board of Governors supports the Principal and Leadership Team in implementing the school's Uniform Policy, considers all representations from parents regarding this policy and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

Monitoring and Review

Parent/carers and pupil views are valued and will be taken into consideration at each review of this policy which will be every two years.