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Issued	July 2026		
Approved by	Simon Morley - Associate Education Director	Next review	2027

Mount Street Academy – Uniform Policy

Introduction

It is the policy of Mount Street Academy that all pupils wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

This policy has been developed in accordance with the Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021 and the Department for Education's statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms. The academy is committed to ensuring that uniform requirements are affordable, inclusive and represent best value for money for families.

Aims and objectives

This policy aims to:

- Promote a sense of pride in the academy.
- Foster a feeling of belonging and community.
- Support equality amongst pupils.
- Ensure pupils are dressed appropriately for learning and physical activity.
- Provide clarity for families regarding uniform expectations.
- Ensure uniform costs remain reasonable and affordable.
- Comply with equality legislation and statutory guidance.
- Minimise financial barriers to participation in education.

Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination based on protected characteristics, including sex, race, religion or belief, disability and gender reassignment.

To ensure compliance, Mount Street Academy will:

- Avoid specifying uniform items by gender.
- Ensure the cost of required uniform is the same for all pupils.
- Permit pupils to wear the uniform that best reflects their gender identity.
- Allow pupils to wear religious head coverings and symbols.
- Permit hairstyles that are appropriate for school and reflect individual identity, culture or religion.

- Make reasonable adjustments for pupils with disabilities or medical needs.
- Consider requests for adaptations to uniform requirements sympathetically and individually.

Requests for adaptations should be made to the Headteacher.

Branded Uniform

- The academy will keep compulsory branded items to an absolute minimum.
- Wherever possible, families may purchase equivalent unbranded items from a retailer of their choice.
- The academy will regularly review branded uniform requirements to ensure they remain necessary, affordable and offer value for money.
- The academy will continue to monitor national guidance regarding limits on compulsory branded items and will ensure compliance with all future statutory requirements.

Uniform details

All uniform items should be clearly labelled with the child's name.

Normal day-to-day wear:

Pupils may wear:

- Navy logo or non-logo jumper/cardigan.
- White or navy polo shirt (logo or non-logo).
- Grey trousers.
- Grey shorts.
- Grey skirt.
- Grey pinafore dress.
- Grey leggings.
- Black, grey or white socks.
- Black shoes or black trainers.

For Nursery and Reception pupils, grey jogging bottoms or leggings are permitted to support independent toileting.

Blue and white gingham dresses may be worn during warmer weather.

Hijabs and Patkas should be white, black or navy.

Footwear

Footwear should:

- Be practical and suitable for active learning.
- Be plain black.

- Not have high heels or platform soles.

Black boots may be worn during winter provided they are plain and practical.

EYFS pupils must keep a named pair of wellington boots in school for outdoor learning.

PE Uniform

Pupils should wear:

- Navy tracksuit bottoms.
- Navy tracksuit top.
- Navy shorts (summer term).
- White or purple plain crew-neck or polo shirt.
- Black plimsolls for indoor PE.
- Black trainers for outdoor PE.
- Drawstring PE bag (logo or non-logo).

Football kits, football shirts and studded boots are not permitted.

Pupils should attend school in full PE kit on designated PE days.

Weather/Seasonal Requirements

To ensure pupils are safe and comfortable:

Winter

Pupils should bring:

- A warm coat.
- Gloves.
- Hat or earmuffs.

Summer

Pupils should:

- Wear a sunhat or cap.
- Have sunscreen applied before school or bring sunscreen to apply independently where appropriate.
- Bring a waterproof coat when required.

The academy encourages families to purchase seasonal clothing from suppliers of their choice and does not require branded outerwear.

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, jewellery should not be worn.

Exceptions are:

- Stud earrings.
- Items of genuine religious significance.

Parents wishing their child to wear an item of religious significance should notify the Headteacher in writing.

Where earrings cannot be removed for PE they must be covered. If this is not possible, the pupil may be unable to take part in practical aspects of the lesson for safety reasons.

Hair and make-up

Hair, Makeup and Nails

The academy:

- Permits long hair.
- May require long hair to be tied back during PE or practical activities.
- Allows hairstyles that are suitable for school and respectful of cultural identity.
- Permits discreet hair accessories in school colours.
- May require large hair accessories to be removed where they present a safety risk.

Make-up and nail varnish should not be worn in school.

Pre-Loved Uniform

Mount Street Academy actively promotes the use of second-hand uniform to support affordability and sustainability.

The academy operates a Pre-Loved Uniform Shop which provides affordable uniform items to families.

Families are encouraged to donate clean and good-quality uniform items that are no longer required.

Information regarding access to pre-loved uniform is available from the school office and academy website.

Support for Families

Families experiencing financial hardship are encouraged to contact the school confidentially.

The academy will seek to support families through:

- Access to pre-loved uniform.
- Signposting to local support schemes.
- Signposting to charitable assistance where available.
- Practical support where circumstances require it.

No family should avoid speaking to the school due to concerns about uniform costs.

The role of the academy

The academy:

- Will make every effort to ensure branded items are affordable.
- Will regularly review uniform requirements.
- Will consult stakeholders regarding significant proposed changes.
- Will ensure details of uniform requirements are publicly available.
- Accepts no responsibility for loss or damage to personal belongings.

Uniform bearing the academy logo can be purchased through the academy's approved supplier.

Unbranded items may be obtained from any suitable retailer.

The role of families

Parents and carers are expected to ensure that their child:

- Wears the correct uniform.
- Arrives ready for learning.
- Has clean clothing.
- Has clothing that is clearly named.
- Has clothing in good repair.

Families may request amendments to the policy linked to:

- Protected characteristics.
- Disability.
- Medical needs.
- Financial hardship.

Requests should be directed to the Headteacher.

Expectations for our pupils

Pupils are expected to wear correct uniform:

- On school premises.
- On educational visits where required.
- When representing the academy.

Responding to non-compliance

The academy will take a sensitive and proportionate approach to uniform compliance.

No pupil will face disadvantage, exclusion from education, or inappropriate sanctions because of genuine inability to meet uniform requirements due to family circumstances or financial hardship. Staff will work collaboratively with families to find practical solutions and provide support where needed.

Where issues arise:

1. Staff will discuss concerns discreetly with the pupil and/or family.
2. Support will be offered where required.

3. Reasonable timescales will be agreed for resolving concerns.
4. Further action will only be considered where concerns persist and support has been offered.

Complaints

Complaints relating to school uniform will be managed through the academy's Complaints Policy. The academy will work constructively with families to achieve mutually acceptable outcomes.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually and whenever there are significant changes to:

- Legislation.
- Department for Education guidance.
- Equality requirements.
- Academy uniform arrangements.

The policy will be approved by the Associate Education Director following each review.

Version: July 2026

Review Due: July 2027

Owner: Headteacher, Mount Street Academy

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by Simon Morley, Associate Education Director.