



Document Title	MLT Uniform Policy
Author/Owner (Name and Title)	Executive Director
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Policy Category (Please Indicate)	1	Trust/Academies to use without amendment
	2	Academy specific appendices
	3	Academy personalisation required (in highlighted fields)

Summary of Changes from Previous Version

Version	Date	Author	Note/Summary of Revisions
V2	October 2022	DJA	Links added to page 2 to reference the two new DfE documents, published in November 2021.

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1. WHY WE REQUIRE STUDENTS TO WEAR UNIFORM

The Department for Education released new guidance around school uniform in November 2021:

- School uniform – non-statutory guidance – 19 November 2021
[School uniforms - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/school-uniforms)
- Cost of school uniform – statutory guidance – 19 November 2021
[Cost of school uniforms - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/government/guidance/cost-of-school-uniforms)

Schools are not required to have a uniform policy at all, although the Department for Education strongly recommends that they do so.

The Maltby Learning Trust (MLT) Board have agreed the Trust's uniform policy in line with published guidance. The Trust believes uniform can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of the school and setting an appropriate tone.

All academies in the Trust have a distinctive uniform that gives the students a sense of belonging, helps foster pride in their Academy and stops students coming to school in inappropriate clothing or footwear. Students are ambassadors in their local community. Therefore, we expect all students to wear full uniform when travelling to and from the Academy, at all Academy functions, on extra-curricular visits and when taking part in sporting events.

2. HOW DO ACADEMIES IN THE TRUST DETERMINE THE UNIFORM?

Each academy in the Trust determines its own uniform but must ensure that it does not discriminate based on sex, race, disability, sexual orientation, gender reassignment, religion or belief. When considering how the school uniform is to be sourced, the Local Governance Committee (LGC) will give highest priority to the consideration of cost and value for money for parents/carers.

Each Academy will take the following factors into account when determining their school uniform:

- Affordable to families
- Traditional - exemplifies a commitment to high standards
- Sustainable - not subject to changes in fashion
- Recognisable - clearly associated with the individual Academy
- Business-like and distinguishable from what students would wear in everyday life.

Exclusive single supplier contracts will only be entered into following a regular tendering process where more than one supplier can compete for the contract and where best value for parents/carers can be demonstrated. Any savings negotiated with suppliers will be passed on to parents/carers wherever possible. Academies will not enter into cash back arrangements.

3. WHAT OTHER APPEARANCE RULES APPLY?

As well as having rules on school uniform, each Academy will provide clear guidelines on student appearance and the wearing of jewellery.

4. DISCIPLINE

The Trust/Academy expects all students to meet the uniform standards as specified on the Academy website. Where there is a breach of the uniform policy, guidance states that the Principal can ask a student to go home to rectify the clothing breach. The Academy will carefully consider whether this action is appropriate, taking into account the child's age, vulnerability, the ease and time it will take the student to get home, and the availability of the child's parents. Secondary Academies will provide the relevant items of clothing (new) and students will be expected to change into these as required. As specified earlier in the policy the cost of the items of uniform will not be a barrier.

The Principal in each Academy can discipline children and young people for not wearing the correct school uniform. In all MLT Academies the strict uniform policy is enforced rigorously. In instances of repeated and persistent failure to meet the expected uniform standards the Academy may consider fixed term exclusion.

5. COMPLAINTS

Any disputes about school uniform should be resolved locally and in accordance with the Trust/Academy complaints policy.