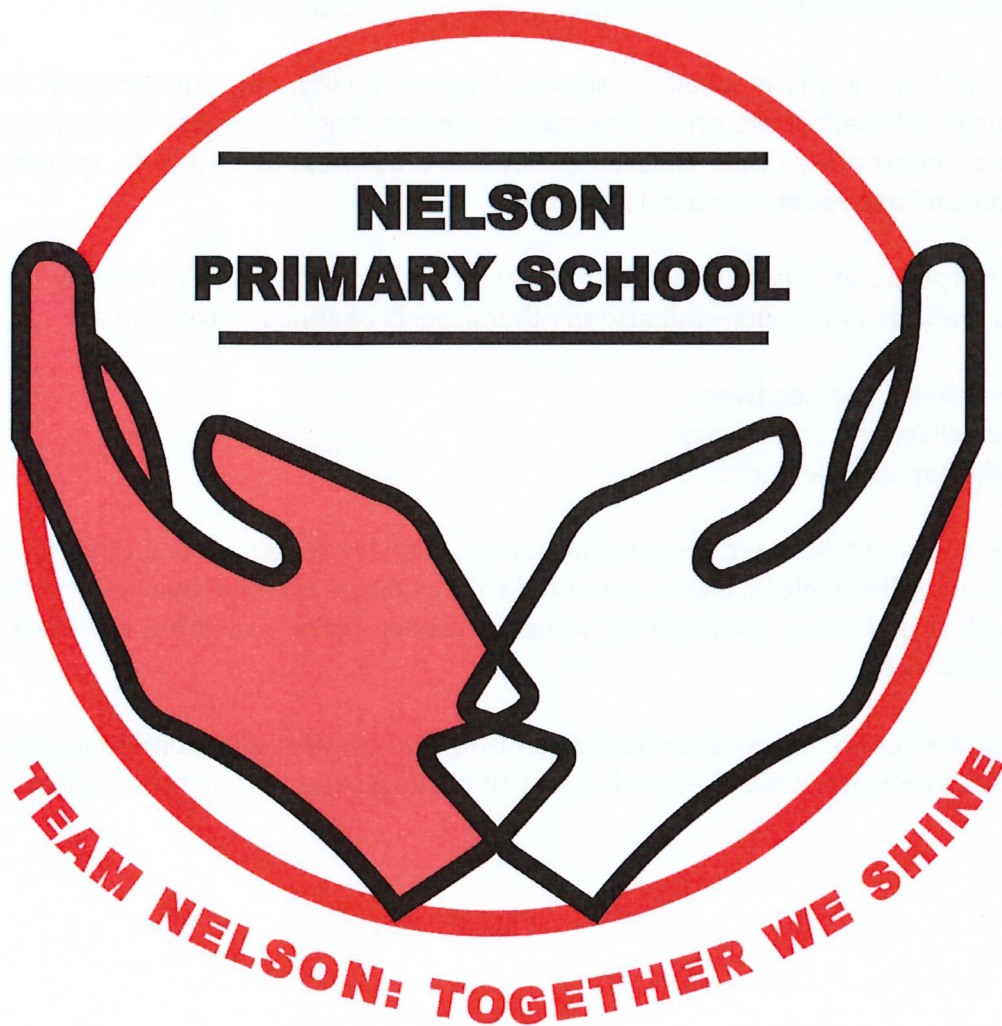


School Uniform Policy



Responsibility: Miss Forrest
Approved on: 16th July 2026
Next Review Date: July 2028

Madison

Statement of intent

At Nelson Primary School, we believe that wearing a school uniform helps to foster a strong sense of **identity, purpose, and belonging** among our pupils. It encourages pride in appearance and promotes a shared sense of community across the school.

Wearing uniform instils in pupils a sense of **responsibility**; they understand that their behaviour should reflect the pride they take in representing our school. Many parents also feel that a uniform helps their children to develop a **business-like attitude**, reinforcing the **work ethic and aspirations** we aim to nurture.

For the purposes of this policy, “uniform” refers not only to pupils’ clothing—including standard uniform and PE kits—but also to other aspects of appearance, such as:

- Hairstyles and headwear
- Jewellery and accessories
- Makeup and nail polish

This policy sets out how we ensure that our uniform expectations are **clear, consistent, inclusive, and affordable**. We are committed to providing a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils and families, offering **best value for money** while respecting individual identity and circumstance.

Above all, we believe pupils learn best when they feel **comfortable, confident**, and able to **express who they are**, while dressed in a way that sets an appropriate tone for learning.

The **Governing Board** is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible, inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding and future changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating in this policy how best value for money has been achieved.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's '[Cost of school uniforms](#)' guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools.'

2. Roles and responsibilities

The headteacher **Miss Forrest** and the **Senior Leadership Team** are responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform rules on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Exempting pupils from wearing school uniform if appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting shirt.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.

- Where appropriate to their role, speaking to parents of pupils who are in breach of this policy. Letters may be issued to parents informing them of the correct uniform, ***but children are not chastised***.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires an exemption to the uniform rules for a period of time, with a reason why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g., school identity and community.

3. Cost principles

The school will ensure that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform requirements do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school will keep variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils to a minimum to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

Nelson Primary School will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be

purchased at a range of retailers, e.g. supermarkets, due to the item's logo, colour, design, fabric or other unique element. Where the school requires an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this. This may include:

- Offering sew- or iron-on logo patches for blazers and jumpers that can be bought at non-specialist retailers, instead of requiring specific branded jumpers.
- Ensuring branded items are longer-lasting and unlikely to be grown out of quickly.
- Making washed donated second-hand uniform available for donation to parents and carers.
- After a reasonable time, making lost property items that are school uniform available to parents.

The school will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

4. Equality principles

Nelson Primary School takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any protected characteristic very seriously. In line with this, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

Our school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that, where appropriate and with pupils' consent, views and advice are sought specifically from pupils, and parents of pupils, who:

- Are transgender or non-binary.
- Are of a religious or cultural background that has specific dress requirements.
- Have SEND and/or sensory needs.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher, **Miss Forrest** and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined below.

SEND and medical conditions.

To avoid disproportionately impacting pupils with SEND or medical conditions, the school will ensure its uniform policy takes into account the needs of these pupils. This includes:

- Ensuring the school uniform uses soft, stretchy fabrics and avoids intricate buttons or hard seams.
- Allowing variations to the standard uniform for pupils whose medical conditions may impact how they dress, e.g. pupils with casts who require loose-fitting clothing or pupils with hair loss-related conditions who wish to wear head coverings.

Where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

5. Complaints and challenges

The school will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Procedures Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein.

When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

6. School uniform supplier

Nelson Primary School is committed to ensuring that school uniform remains affordable and accessible to all families.

The school currently works with Clive Marks as its supplier of optional logoed uniform items. Details can be obtained from the school office or via the school website. [Nelson Primary School Uniform – Clive Mark](#)

Parents and carers are encouraged to purchase standard uniform items from supermarkets, high street retailers and other clothing suppliers where this offers the best value for money. Most items within the Nelson Primary School uniform can be purchased from a wide range of retailers.

The school does not require parents to purchase branded uniform items. Plain alternatives that meet the school's colour and appearance requirements are acceptable.

The Governing Board will periodically review uniform supply arrangements to ensure that families continue to receive good value for money and access to affordable uniform options.

7. Uniform assistance and Second-Hand Uniform

[Uniform Assistance and Second-Hand Uniform \(new 7\)](#)

Nelson Primary School recognises that the cost of school uniform can place financial pressure on some families. The school is committed to supporting families where assistance may be required.

Support may be available at the discretion of the Headteacher for families experiencing financial hardship.

The school maintains a stock of donated second-hand uniform which is available throughout the year. Parents and carers may access this provision confidentially through the school office, Senior Leadership Team or Pastoral Team.

Information about the availability of second-hand uniform is published on the school website and shared with prospective parents and carers. The school aims to ensure that all families are aware of this support before purchasing new uniform items.

Parents and carers are encouraged to donate clean, good-quality uniform items when they are no longer required. Donated items will be checked, washed where appropriate and made available to other families within the school community.

The school may also make suitable lost property items available for re-use where these have remained unclaimed after a reasonable period.

8. School uniform

Clothing

The school uniform is as follows:

R = Required | O = Optional

Item	Optional or required	How to acquire
Black school sweatshirt with, or without school logo.	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA Plain black school sweatshirt or cardigan. School logo versions are available but are not compulsory.
Plain red polo shirts	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Plain grey school trousers	<u>O</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Plain grey skirt or grey dress.	<u>O</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Plain black sensible shoes. except for P.E.	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Long boots, if worn, should be plain black.	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Socks or tights should be plain red, black, or grey.	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Red and white check school dresses can be worn in summer	<u>O</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Religious head-dresses should be plain black, red, or grey. Hair grips only to	<u>R</u>	<u>N/A</u>

be used. Pins are not allowed		
Plain black jogging bottoms (black shorts in the summer is optional),	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Plain black hoodie	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Plain red top	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Black pumps for inside PE	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Black trainers for outside PE.	<u>R</u>	Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA
Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. Schoolbags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases will not be permitted.	<u>R</u>	N/A Most high street shops and supermarkets School Uniform Shop Shoes & Clothes George at ASDA

Jewellery should not be worn except plain studs in pierced ears and watches. Smart watches, or any other device which has a record, communication or camera function are not permitted and will be treated in the same regard to mobile phones. (I.e. confiscated while the pupil is in school.)

Earrings ~ must be plain studs as hoops or 'dangling' earrings can get caught on items, causing ears to rip and cut.

Hair, make up and nail varnish ~ we believe that children should be able to express themselves and their unique identity in school. Therefore, nail varnish and make-up are allowed to be worn, and all hairstyles are accepted. However, words or symbols which could be considered offensive are not permitted and restrictions for health and safety reasons are expected. E.g. nails should not be too long, and long hair may need to be tied back for certain lessons, such as PE or D&T, to avoid being caught in equipment used in school.

9. Non-Compliance

Parents who persistently send children to school not in uniform will receive a letter from the school Governors.

10. Labelling and lost property

Parents will be advised to ensure that all pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name and year group.

Any lost clothing will be taken to the lost property which is located in the outdoor shed near the KS1 entrance. Parents are free to look inside at any time.

All lost property will be retained for **one month** and then may be disposed of or washed and donated to parents who may need school uniform items.

