



Manchester
Communication
Primary
Academy

Manchester Communication Primary Academy

Uniform

Policy 2019

Approval History

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Revision History

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Purpose of the Policy

The purpose of this policy is to provide complete clarity around what is acceptable and unacceptable in terms of children's appearance at MCPA. This enables staff, children and their families to be clear on what the expectations are around uniform so that all members of the school community can work together to ensure that we have a visible sense of pride in our school through the way we dress.

Our children are ambassadors for our academy whenever they wear MCPA's uniform; a smart appearance gives the right impression of our school.

Purpose of Uniform

School uniform's main purpose is to act as a social-leveller. By having all of the children in school, from nursery to Y6 abide by the rules set-out in this policy, we can ensure that all children are enabled to feel like equals. In addition to this, the wearing of a smart uniform creates a sense of pride, unity and gives confidence. MCPA's uniform has been designed to give this sense of being smart whilst also being practical, hardwearing and good value for money.

Acceptable Clothing

Children should wear items from the list below.

Top Half:

- MCPA branded jumper or cardigan, available from Ziggy's at Harpurhey Retail Park
- White polo-shirt, blouse or shirt (branded polo shirts are not necessary).
- In year 6, children will be provided with a black blazer to wear in place of their jumper.

Bottom Half:

- Grey or black school trousers. Not tapered leg or denim.
- Grey or black school shorts.
- Grey or black school skirt, at an appropriate length. Most children choose to wear shorts under a skirt.

Alternatives:

- Non-branded alternatives are acceptable, such as plain green jumpers/cardigans.
- School style dresses may be worn, these include grey, black and gingham (ideally green) designs. Gingham playsuits may also be worn.

Footwear:

All children must have black footwear to wear in school, this can be shoes or trainers but must not have any colour on it other than black. Small boots can be acceptable, but not if they have a large heel or go to the knee.

Children are welcome to bring alternative footwear into school to wear outside such as trainers of any colour or wellington boots.

Outerwear:

Children need to have access to a coat in school, as we do go outside in most weather conditions, a waterproof coat is preferable. Coats are only to be worn outside the school building.

Hair and Make-up

MCPA does not have rules around appropriate and inappropriate hairstyles; children are free to have their hair how they like it, so long as it does not become a distraction for themselves and other children. Children with long hair will need to be able to tie it back for practical subjects.

In reception and nursery, we ask that all children with long hair have it tied back/up or in plaits/ braids to prevent the spread of headlice.

We do not believe that primary aged children are old enough to routinely wear make-up. Therefore we do not accept any make-up in school. If a child does come into school wearing make-up, they will be given cleansing wipes to remove it and parents informed.

Children are free to have painted nails if they wish. False nails however do pose a safety risk, so please do not allow your child to have false nails glued on.

Jewelry and Accessories

School is not an appropriate place to wear jewelry; it increases the risk of injury as children play and is likely to become lost or damaged. MCPA and its staff accept no responsibility for jewelry which is brought into school.

Children are permitted to wear 1 set of stud or sleeper-style earrings, they must be able to remove these themselves for practical lessons and clubs.

Children should not wear necklaces in school. If they do, they must not be on show and must be removed for practical lessons.

The wearing of bracelets is not permitted.

Wearable Technology

Children may choose to wear a watch to school. However, as MCPA does not allow children to bring mobile phones into school (they are handed in at the office), children also must not wear smart-watches. This includes any wearable device which can be used to communicate or take pictures.

PE

Rec-Y4

MCPA provides a PE kit which consists of a branded t-shirt and black shorts. These are kept and washed in school. Some children choose to wear black jogging bottoms/leggings in place of or in addition to their shorts, this is acceptable. Children should bring a pair of trainers or pumps (black) for PE.

Y5&6

Children are provided with jogging bottoms, an MCPA warm sports top/fleece and a t-shirt. On PE days in Y5&6 children are expected to come to school wearing their PE kit, which they will wear all day with trainers. Children will go home in their PE kit so that they can wash it, ready for the week after. Children must not substitute any element of this kit with their own clothing. This PE kit remains the property of MCPA and should be given back to the school when the child leaves. Any loss or damage must be paid for.

Swimming

Children need to provide their own swimming kit if they are undertaking swimming lessons in PE. These kits must be one-piece and skin-tight (as per swimming lesson provider's rules), swimming shorts and bikinis are not permitted. Children with long hair must wear a swimming cap. Goggles are only permitted for children with specific eye conditions.

Special Items

Children who have been rewarded or have an additional responsibility in school may have additional items to wear. E.g. leather jackets for TT rockstars champions; lanyards for Ruby the dog's helpers or high-vis jackets for play leaders. In some cases, an alternative to the school jumper is provided, this remains the property of the school and should be returned when the child leaves.

Religious Items

Children are free to wear religious items such as hijabs, kippahs and turbans as they wish to without fear of reprisal. If children are required to wear an item of jewelry for religious reasons (such as a Kara), please speak to the school office who will ensure that staff are aware.

Management of Non-compliance

If a child is wearing something which is not in-line with the policy, we will firstly alert the parent. If a parent needs some support to find an alternative, this will be provided by our family support team. It is only if a child is refusing to wear the correct uniform when provided with an alternative that MCPA would use its behaviour management system; children are not punished because they do not have access to a certain item of uniform.

Access for All

New children in nursery/reception are given a jumper (or a voucher to collect a jumper) for free.

MCPA operates a uniform swap-shop where parents can swap good condition uniform items for pre-owned good condition items in another size. If a parent has nothing to swap, they pay £1 per item of uniform.

Spare black shoes are kept in school in a range of sizes, if children are not wearing appropriate shoes, they are subtly given a pair of school stock to wear in school.

MCPA keeps a stock of spare coats from unclaimed lost property and donations, these can also be accessed by families in need of support.

PE kit is provided free of charge.

Children are also provided with an individual water bottle which is kept (and cleaned) in school. On entry to the school, children are provided with a book bag at no charge to them.