



E-ACT Montpelier
High School



E-ACT Montpelier High School Uniform Statement

Document provenance

This statement was approved by

Trust Board

Date of Approval: March 2023

ELT Owner: ELT

Date of Review: March 2025

Unless there are legislative or regulatory changes in the interim, this statement will be reviewed every two years. Should no substantive changes be required at that point, the statement will move to the next review cycle.

Related documents:

- Equal Opportunities Policy;
- Behaviour and Anti-bullying Policy;
- Concerns and Complaints Policy;
- Equality and Diversity Policy

Uniform Statement

1. Introduction and purpose

- 1.1. This is the Uniform Statement for E-ACT and applies to all our Academies including the nursery where applicable.
- 1.2. This statement is published on the Trust's website which is available in hard copy on request from the Headteacher.
- 1.3. The Trust supports the views of the Department of Education (DfE) in relation to the aims and purpose of school uniform. The DfE strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:
 - promoting the ethos of a school
 - providing a sense of belonging and identity
 - setting an appropriate tone for education
- 1.4. This statement has been revised in line with statutory guidance on the cost of school uniforms.
- 1.5. Academies have their own uniform policy.

2. Scope

- 2.1. This statement is consistent with the Equal Opportunities Policy and applies equally to all pupils, irrespective of their sex, gender reassignment, race, disability, sexual orientation, pregnancy and maternity or religion or belief or special educational needs, subject to considerations of safety and welfare.

3. Legislation and Regulation

- 3.1. This Statement has been prepared to meet the academy's responsibilities under the [Equality Act 2010](#) and, where applicable, the [Statutory framework for the Early Years Foundation Stage](#) (DfE, September 2021) and Statutory guidance cost of school uniforms (DfE, November 2021)
- 3.2. This Statement has regard to the following guidance and advice:
 - I. [Special educational needs and disability code of practice: 0 to 25 years \(DfE, Updated April 2020\)](#);
 - II. [Technical guidance for schools in England \(Equality and Human Rights Commission, July 2014\)](#);
 - III. [School admissions code: Statutory guidance for admission authorities, governing bodies, local authorities, schools' adjudicators and admission appeals panels \(DfE, September 2021\)](#);
 - IV. [Exclusion from maintained schools, academies and pupil referral units in England: Statutory guidance for those with legal responsibilities in relation to](#)

- [exclusion \(DfE, September 2017\)](#); and
- V. [School uniform: Guidance for governing bodies, school leaders, school staff and local authorities \(DfE, September 2013\)](#).
 - VI. [Education \(Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms\) Act 2021](#)

4. Cost of uniform

- 4.1 Parents should not have to think about the cost of a school uniform when choosing a school for their child, therefore, the Academy will ensure that their uniform is affordable and keep items with a logo to a minimum. The Academies will work with the uniform supplier to ensure that there is value for money. They will also ensure that the number of items with logos is kept to a minimum.
- 4.2 Academies will also take into consideration the total cost of the uniform to parents.

Other sources of Uniform

Academies will ensure that pre-owned but carefully maintained items of uniform can be sourced by parents from the Academy. Information on how to source this will be available for parents of current and prospective pupils and published on the school's website.

5. Uniform requirements

- 5.1. The correct uniform must be worn at all times during the day and when travelling to and from the academy. In most cases, uniform will also be worn for educational visits, except where specifically indicated otherwise in the arrangements for the visit. Similarly, academies may, from time to time, suspend the requirement for pupils to wear uniform – for example, for charitable events such as 'non-uniform' days. Pupils and their parents/carers will always be notified in advance.
- 5.2. Academies are unable to take responsibility for any item of clothing, including uniform, whilst pupils are in the academy, or travelling to or from the academy. All items of uniform must be clearly marked with the pupil's name and tutor group.
- 5.3. Pupils are required to wear uniform correctly and responsibly. Through their adherence to the academy's uniform policy, pupils are representing both themselves and their academy, and demonstrating the high expectations of the academy community. Accordingly, the academy may discipline any pupil in accordance with the Academy's Pupil Behaviour Policy if he or she is not wearing the correct uniform in the way set out in the academy's uniform policy.
- 5.4. Pupils who do not have the complete or correct uniform must provide their Tutor or Year Leader with a note explaining the reason why. The expectation is that instances of incorrect uniform will be remedied as soon as possible, and usually by the next school day at the latest. Where this is unlikely to be the case, the pupils' parents/carers should contact the appropriate member of staff at the academy (usually the year group leader or manager, or senior leader in charge of pastoral matters) to discuss how the academy's uniform expectations will be met.

- 5.5. Where appropriate, pupils who breach the academy policy may be asked by the Headteacher, or a person authorised by the Headteacher, to remedy the breach as soon as possible. This might, for example, include promptly removing unauthorised items such as jewellery, or returning home for a brief period to remedy the breach.
- 5.6. In exceptional cases, financial assistance or other support may be available for parents or carers, through for example, a hardship fund administered by the academy.
- 5.7. The academy will consider reasonable requests to alter the academy uniform, for example for transgender pupils, for genuine religious requirements and reasonable adjustments for SEND disabled pupils. Where there is uncertainty as to whether an item may be worn under this section, the issue must be referred by the pupil or the pupil's parents to the Headteacher, whose decision will be final.

6. Symbols of faith

- 6.1. Certain items of jewellery, such as the Kara bangle, and certain items of headwear, such as the turban and headscarves may be worn by pupils when doing so is genuinely based on manifesting religious or racial beliefs or identity. This is subject to considerations of safety and welfare and the academy's existing uniform policy principles.
- 6.2. Where there is uncertainty as to whether an item may be worn under this section, the issue must be referred by the pupil or the pupil's parents to the Headteacher, whose decision will be final.

7. Disabled pupils

- 7.1. Reasonable adjustments may be required to the uniform for disabled pupils who require them. The pupil or his/her parents should refer the matter to the Headteacher to ensure all reasonable adjustments are made to accommodate the pupil.

8. Monitoring and compliance

- 8.1. Compliance with the uniform statement will be monitored within the academy by the Education Director.

Appendix 1

Montpelier High School Uniform Code

The Montpelier High School uniform is smart, safe and inclusive to reflect the ethos of our school. In surveys to parents/carers and students, we have received many positive comments about the uniform and a strong sense that affordability and sustainability matter too. These sentiments also underpin the statutory government guidance on uniform to schools that came into force in September 2022.

All students must wear correct school uniform to and from school and during the school day. This will also be the requirement for school trips, unless otherwise specified.

The standard of our uniform is important as it represents Montpelier High School and we ask that all uniform is clean and students are smartly presented at all times.

Please label uniform with full names.

Branded school uniform for Montpelier High School may be purchased from our supplier, Monkhouse Schoolwear. Online shopping is available, as well as in-store shopping from their store at 140 East Street, Bedminster, Bristol BS3 4EW. (Check opening times before visiting.)
<https://www.monkhouse.com/school/montpelier-high-school-urn-135581>

We have a limited budget available to provide some financial assistance to parents/carers towards the cost of the school uniform. This will mainly be provided to parents/carers whose child is in receipt of Free School Meals. Please contact mhs-info@mhs.e-act.org.uk for further information.

Some additional funding has also been made available, on a one-off basis, by The Friends of Montpelier High School, for parents/carers whose child is not eligible to Free School Meals but would benefit from some financial assistance towards the purchase of uniform. Please contact mhs-parentsassoc@mhs.e-act.org.uk

Our PTA 'Friends of Montpelier High School' also sells pre-loved uniform at our summer fair in June, and from the pre-loved uniform shop. Opening times will be advertised in the parent bulletin.

SCHOOL UNIFORM:

(Bold items are compulsory)

Blazer (Monkhouse)	Navy blue blazer with Montpelier High School (MHS) embroidered pocket. <i>Students are expected to wear their blazers at all times around the school. Blazer sleeves should not be rolled up.</i>
Kilt/Pleated Skirt/ Trousers or shorts	Navy blue MHS kilt, available from Monkhouse Schoolwear or navy blue pleated skirt. <u>This is to be worn on or below the knee.</u> Kilts can be made-to-measure if a longer skirt is required. Navy blue tailored trousers, available from Monkhouse Schoolwear, or other stockists. <i>Straight, skinny leg trousers, Capri-style, 'ankle-grazers', cropped, leggings, front seamed style, jeggings, or shorts are NOT acceptable.</i> Navy blue tailored knee-length shorts may be worn in warm weather optional to the kilt or skirt.
Shirt or Blouse	White, long or short sleeved. (Not polo shirts). Blouses and shirts should be tucked into kilts/skirts/shorts/ trousers.
MHS lanyard and ID card	Students are given an ID card and MHS lanyard that must be worn at school. The ID cards can also be used as 'cashless' purchases at break and lunch times.
Jumper	Navy blue knitted V-neck with Montpelier High School embroidered MHS school emblem, or V-neck knitted plain navy blue. The jumper is NOT a compulsory part of the MHS uniform but is recommended for warmth during the colder months.
Thermal wear/vests	Where these are worn in the colder months, they should not be visible under shirt/blouse, jumper and blazer.
Tights/socks	Plain navy-blue tights (without holes or ladders) or plain navy blue, white or black ankle or knee length socks.
Coat	Appropriate water-proof coat. Coats must be removed in the school buildings. Blazers must be worn at all times. Other items such as scarfs, gloves and hats should be kept in bags or lockers. Denim/leather jackets or hooded jumpers or zip up tops are not appropriate and should not be worn in school.
Plain black school shoes	Flat or small wedge heel, lace-up, Velcro-fastening or bar shoes with a soft black sole and black laces. No decorative details, markings or stitching. Black ballet pump style shoes are acceptable if well-fitted and sturdy. Black trainers, plimsolls or sports shoes are not permitted. Examples below.

Examples of acceptable shoes:



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ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

MAKE UP AND NAILS

Excessive make up is not permitted - including fake tan, false eye lashes, eyeliner, blemish stickers or nail varnish - and must NOT be worn with school uniform. False/acrylic nails are not allowed during term time. Nails should be kept short for health and safety reasons.

JEWELLERY

Small stud earrings may be worn. One small, flat, transparent retainer may be worn in a nose piercing. All studs and retainers will need to be removed for PE lessons.

A watch may be worn. Watches that have the capability to access the internet and/or have a camera facility, are not permitted in school.

Please speak to Heads of Year for any other jewellery requests for supportive (i.e. anxiety rings) or religious reasons. These will need to be removed for health and safety reasons when requested.

HIJABS/HEADSCARVES/BONNETS

These must be plain black or navy blue. These items may be white in the summer due to high temperatures.

HAIR

Hair bands, slides etc. to be plain navy blue or black. Hair colour should not be extreme and beads should not be worn in hair. Any head wraps or scarves should be plain navy blue, black or white.

Hair should be tied back when required for health and safety reasons such as PE, science experiments, using design technology equipment etc.

We embrace the [Halo Collective](#) and will champion the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles. We welcome Afro-textured hair worn in all styles including, but not limited to, afros, locs, twists, braids, cornrows, fades, hair straightened through the application of heat or chemicals, weaves, wigs, headscarves, and wraps.

HENNA

Henna may be worn for appropriate cultural festivals and celebrations.

BADGES

Students to wear their house and reward lapel badges on blazers. Other badges for achievements, representation and to highlight local or national campaigns may also be worn on blazers or lanyards.

MOBILE TELEPHONES

Mobile phones, accessories and other smart devices are strictly prohibited on the school site. Students that bring their device or devices to school must keep them, turned off and in their locker. If mobile devices and/or accessories are seen in school, they will be confiscated and can be collected at the end of the school day.

If a student has their device or accessory confiscated more than once in a term, a registered parent or carer must come to the school to collect.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION KIT LIST

PE kit may be worn to school if students have PE for their first/second lesson of the day (periods 1 and 2). Students will need to bring to school their normal school uniform to change into after the PE lessons.

Students who have a PE lesson after break (periods 3 and 4) will change from normal school uniform into PE KIT.

The following items of kit are **COMPULSORY** (those marked * are available from Monkhouse Schoolwear. Other items may be purchased from either Monkhouse Schoolwear or other school uniform retailers.

Polo Shirts* Blue with MHS school emblem, two are recommended.

Skort/Shorts Plain navy kilt style skort, or navy dry stretch fabric shorts.

Hoodie* Pale blue with MHS school emblem.

Hockey Socks Navy with sky blue stripes or plain navy. These are available from Monkhouse and may be available from other retailers.

Sports Bag Blue or black sports/kit bag. A blue bag with MHS school emblem is available from Monkhouse. Other alternatives are also available.

PE Socks Plain ankle socks

Tracksuit Bottoms or Leggings Plain navy (we recommend the leggings available from Monkhouse Schoolwear)

Training Shoes Non-marking soles (lace-ups, NOT fashion trainers and NO Velcro)

Gum Shield For sports such as hockey

Failure to wear will increase the risk of gaining an injury.

Shin Pads For sports such as hockey and football

Failure to wear will increase the risk of gaining an injury.

The following items of kit are **optional**:

Pack away Jacket Plain, navy, breathable wet weather gear. Normal outdoors coats with fur hoods are not permitted to be worn during PE as these may restrict vision

Hockey Stick (Winter)

Tennis Racket (Summer)

Changing robe

No jewellery is to be worn during PE lessons. **This includes ear studs.** Please do not allow your child to have their ears pierced during term time as they will need to

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removed. Hair must be tied back for all activities. Long nails/nail extensions are not permitted during school.

Students must bring their PE kit to school even if they have been excused from taking part, due to injury. Students are expected to change into their PE kits.