



## **Uniform Approach**

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### **Introduction**

It is our belief that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours. We ask children to take a pride in their personal appearance.

Some items of uniform can be bought from Monkhouse (<https://www.monkhouse.com>), which are branded with the FVA logo, whilst others are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets, which are unbranded. We do not ask you to buy branded items. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is printed below.

### **Aims and objectives**

Our approach on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school;
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- identifies the children with the school;
- supports our commitment to inclusion;
- prevents children from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class;
- is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind;
- is considered good value for money by most parents;

### **Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish**

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance. Children are required to remove any items during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings.

Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain. Hair bands should not have large flowers attached.

Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco.

### **Footwear**

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes or black trainers without logos as stated in the uniform list. If boots are worn these should also be plain black. If boots are large and prevent children from sitting comfortably on the floor they may be asked to change into their PE shoes whilst inside the school building. Children should also not wear open toe shoes, flip flops or sandals.

### **The Role of Parents**

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is written on all items.

If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request, they are asked to speak confidentially to a senior member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our 'pre-loved' supply to wear for that day. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request a modification to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the principal.

### **The Role of the Academy Council**

The Academy Council supports the principal in implementing the school uniform Approach. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform Approach and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the Approach is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the Academy Council's responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Councillors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

### **Monitoring and Review**

Monitoring of school uniform happens every day as part of our daily practice. It is evident during lining up times and whole school assemblies when a child is not wearing uniform. On these occasions, a gentle conversation is had with the child about why they may not be in uniform and a reminder that this is the expectation.

However, we are mindful of prior information about circumstances that may not make this conversation appropriate. We encourage parents to tell us if their child is coming to school without uniform.

### **School Uniform List**

Our school uniform colour is a combination of red and grey/black. Most items can be bought from Monkhouse <https://www.monkhouse.com/>, or a supermarket. Items marked with a \* below, some of which have the school logo on, are sold at Monkhouse.

The following items can be worn:

- black skirt of appropriate length/pinafore dress/ red and white checked dress
- white blouse/ polo shirt or red polo shirt\*
- red sweatshirt\* or cardigan\*, without a hood, either plain or with the Frome Vale logo
- plain white short or knee length socks (not over the knee) or
- black, navy or grey tights
- black or grey trousers or shorts **not** jogging bottoms

### **Shoes**

Shoes should be flat, black and appropriate for school. If trainers are worn, these should be plain black without logos. Children should wear shoes which they can manage to do up independently. If boots are worn these also should be plain black. Children who wear boots that prevent them from sitting comfortably on the floor may be asked to wear their PE shoes whilst inside the building.

**P.E. Kit**

Pupils should come to school on their PE days wearing:

- Trainers suitable for sport (ones with grip that do up tightly enough to support the ankle and not fashion ones)
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms, leggings or shorts
- A plain black or white t shirt

**PRE- Loved Uniform**

In order to work towards our environmental commitments and reduce costs for parents, we encourage parents and carers to use pre- loved uniform that we hold a stock of within the school. Please email your requirements including the age of the child and we will respond with availability of the required items.

Please do consider donating any Frome Vale Academy uniform that your child has outgrown so that we may include it within our pre-loved stock.