



Headteacher: Mr M Currie
Deputy Headteacher: Mr L Clarke
Telephone: 01622 752161
E-mail: sbps_office@swale.at

Website: www.southboroughprimary.org.uk
Twitter: @sbpsmaidstone
Facebook: sbpsmaidstone

A Learning Ladder for Life

9th June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Changes to School Uniform Policy from September 2025 - Consultation

We're looking to change our school uniform, starting September 2025, and we want your thoughts. The Government (DfE) says uniforms should be affordable and practical, and with costs spiralling, plus more hands-on lessons and OPAL at lunchtime (where children need to be comfortable when playing, climbing and might get messy), we feel it's the right time for a uniform policy that offers increased affordability and greater flexibility for parents.

Reasons for change

1. **Reduce cost.** The most recent prices that we have received from our uniform supplier for a branded jumper/cardigan is at least £23.45. We feel that this is an expensive price tag for a compulsory item of uniform.
2. **Greater flexibility.** Our current uniform policy mandates that children have to wear branded jumpers/cardigans, ties and PE tops. We want to ensure that parents have the option of buying ALL items of uniform at cheaper prices from supermarkets if they so wish to.
3. **Increased practicality.** Our current day-to-day uniform is impractical for OPAL activities and Forest Schools, meaning that children either need to change or wear something different to school. In addition to this, a tie poses a health and safety risk during some practical lessons. We want to ensure that children are dressed comfortably and appropriately for activities that they may engage in whilst at primary school.

Summary of options

We have drafted 3 available options for uniform from September. Option 3 offers no change to the current uniform policy. Options 1 and 2 are new expectations for uniform.

Option 1 continues with a separate school and PE uniform. The school uniform offers greater flexibility by allowing children to wear a jumper with or without a school logo. It replaces the collared shirt with white polo shirt, reducing cost and increasing practicality. Children will also not be required to wear ties. The PE kit replaces coloured t-shirts with plain white t-shirts, given that the house system is no longer used. It also abolishes the optional coloured sweatshirts, allowing pupils to wear their school jumper OR navy/blue/black sweatshirt on PE days.

Option 2 simplifies the uniform further by having one set of clothing expectations, irrespective of whether it is a PE day or not. Any combination of the clothing listed could be worn on any day to school. Both Options 1 and 2 also introduce the option of children bringing in waterproof clothing and wellies for OPAL play.

We truly value parental feedback on this important aspect of our school. With this in mind, I invite parents to look at the options outlined and offer their opinions via this [Google Form](#), which will be open until Monday 16th June 12pm.

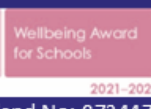
Yours sincerely,

Mathew Currie
Headteacher

Stagshaw Close, Postley Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6TL

A member of Swale Academies Trust

Registered Office: Ashdown House, Johnson Road, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 1JS



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| | <u>Proposed uniform requirements</u> | <u>Changes</u> |
|-----------------|--|---|
| OPTION 1 | <p><u>School Uniform</u> Jumper: navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan with or without school logo Top: White polo shirt Bottoms: Plain, dark grey Trousers/Shorts/Skirts/Pinafore dress/Culottes or red/white checked gingham dress Socks: Plain dark colour or white socks or tights Shoes: plain, flat black shoes</p> <p><u>PE Kit</u> Top: plain white t-shirt Bottoms: navy blue/black shorts / tracksuit bottoms Jumper: navy/blue black sweatshirt (no hoodies) OR branded/unbranded school jumper</p> <p><u>OPAL Clothing</u> Wellies, waterproof jacket and trousers</p> | <p>1. Children can wear a jumper with or without a school logo.</p> <p>2. Replace collared shirt with white polo shirt, reducing cost and increasing practicality.</p> <p>3. No ties.</p> <p>4. Replace coloured t-shirts, as the house system is no longer used.</p> <p>5. Replace coloured sweatshirt with school jumper/plain top.</p> <p>6. Introduce OPAL Kit.</p> |
| OPTION 2 | <p>Jumper: navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan with or without school logo Top: White polo shirt or t-shirt OR long sleeved plain white/black top Bottoms: Plain, dark grey, blue or black leggings, joggers or school trousers/skirts. Summer: Dark grey, blue or black cycling shorts, jogger shorts, school shorts or red/white checked gingham dress Footwear: black school shoes, or plain black or white trainers.</p> <p>Any combination of the above could be worn on each day.</p> <p><u>OPAL Clothing</u> Wellies, waterproof jacket and trousers</p> | <p>1. All of the changes in Option 1.</p> <p>2. No separate PE/school uniform.</p> <p>3. Increased flexibility and practicality of uniform</p> |
| OPTION 3 | <p><u>School Uniform</u> Jumper: Navy Blue jumper, cardigan or fleece <u>with School logo</u> Top: White, long or short sleeved shirt/blouse with collar School ties: (Compulsory Years 3 - 6; Voluntary Reception - Year 2) Bottoms: Plain, dark grey Trousers/Shorts/Skirts/Pinafore dress/Culottes or red/white checked gingham dress Socks: Plain dark colour or white socks or tights Shoes: plain, flat black shoes</p> <p><u>PE Kit</u> Top: house coloured PE T.Shirt Bottoms: Navy Blue Shorts / Tracksuit bottoms Jumper: Plain house colour sweatshirt or school jumper</p> | <p>No changes to the current policy.</p> |