STOCKPORT
METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

Valley School
Small steps – giant strides

School uniform policy

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Date approved and agreed	**September 2022, October 2026**
Review Date	**September 2027**
Date Amended	**June 2025, Sept 25 – v small changes, Sept 26 small changes around pre-loved uniform.**
Date approved	

This or any policy can be made available in a range of formats, large print or translation.

Introduction

Our school uniform policy reflects the belief that the unique child is central to the ethos and values of Valley School.
For some in our community, school uniforms are very important. This is for many reasons including convenience, cost and inclusion. A uniform can provide a visual and/or tactile object of reference/symbol that a child is going to school and when it is not available can support in communicating that it is the weekend or school holidays.
For others of us, a uniform provides challenges and therefore at Valley we offer options around school clothing.

Valley uniform - optional

School uniforms with an embroidered Valley logo including a choice between **red and royal blue sweatshirts** and **cardigans** as well as **polo shirts** and **fleeces** are available online from My Clothing - see our website for details.

Pre-loved Valley uniform

Stockport are committed to making pre-loved school uniform very accessible.
If you have any old uniform that no longer fits your child, donate it at your local library. If you want to buy pre-loved uniform contact **Reloved Uniform 4**. This local project works across the borough to collect, launder, and distribute school clothing for primary and secondary schools. You can learn more or check updates via the Reloved Stockport Facebook Page.
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Stockport Libraries and Stopford House: You can access free or low-cost pre-loved uniform items year-round through local libraries or by contacting the Resident Advice and Support team at Stopford House.

Seasonal Pop-Up Shops: Keep an eye out for temporary events like the pop-up uniform shop at Merseyway Shopping Centre, which offers heavily discounted items supporting local community causes

No uniform

Some families prefer for their children to wear **non-uniform clothing** as familiarity, comfort and ease of getting on and off is a priority.
We would prefer for a child to arrive in school in their favourite clothes and be ready to learn rather than family having started their day persuading a child to wear a sweatshirt with a logo.

Clothing priorities

At Valley we ask that **comfort for the child and clothes designed to support independence skills/ support staff in meeting personal care** are given **priority.**
Therefore, a child who is: -

- physically active needs **shoes that they can run in** and suitable for all weather outside play
- PEG or JEJ fed need clothes with **easy access**
- children who are in wheelchairs need clothing that is **comfortable to sit** on
- **jogging bottoms** are often a more practical choice than button and zipped school trousers

- All children need **warm coats (or blankets)** and appropriate waterproof clothing/accessories for outside play and learning.

Jewellery

If a child has pierced ears, studs need to be worn to reduce the chance of the earring getting pulled or caught.

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