

# Whitchurch Combined School



## Uniform Policy

### **Aims**

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

### **Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010**

- The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with a member of the senior leadership team who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any reasonable requests

### **Limiting the cost of school uniform**

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform. We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary (e.g. Logos on several items of clothing)
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes

- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

## Key Principles

The Governors, Head Teacher and Staff believe that a school uniform fosters a sense of identity, belonging and pride, and sets a high standard of appearance for all. A school uniform policy only works well if everyone knows what is expected.

- Where possible children are expected to wear a jumper or cardigan that displays the school logo. If this is not possible, a plain bottle green jumper/cardigan is acceptable.
- Small, plain studs for pierced ears and wrist watches are permitted – both of which must be removed for P.E.
- Skirt length no shorter than just above the knee.
- As a safety precaution, necessary when moving around the school, conventional shoes must be worn i.e. no mules; no boots and no heels.
- Trainers only as sports shoes and only on PE days.
- No fashion items, e.g. boot leg trousers, mini-skirts or designer sportswear.
- Socks and tights should be plain coloured (black or grey), no patterns or cartoons.
- All clothing, including coats and shoes must be labelled with pupil's name.
- Nail varnish, tattoos or make-up (including lip salve) are not permitted.
- Hair accessories must be small and either green or black.
- Hijab – one piece – Dark Green.
- Children should have conventional haircuts - extreme hairstyles, including sculptured haircuts, and obviously dyed hair, features such as razored eyebrows are not permitted. Hair longer chin level must be tied back.

We encourage our children to take responsibility for their own appearance, to look clean, smart and tidy at all times. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure their child is properly attired for school. Members of the school staff have responsibility for promoting the school's uniform policy by reminding children about the rules relating to appropriate dress.

Should any aspect of uniform be outside of the policy, staff will talk to parents. Of course, it may be a one-off or temporary situation which we understand can occur from time to time. However, if it is expected to be ongoing, parents should contact the teacher.

If support with meeting the uniform expectations is required, please do contact Mrs Mobbs via the school office.

<b>Whitchurch Combined School, School uniform</b>
White shirt (polo shirt for our Reception Class)
Grey trousers (not leggings)
Grey skirt/pinafore
Green jumper, cardigan (jumpers and cardigans with school logo are available)
Plain black school shoes
Plain grey/white coloured socks
Plain black/grey coloured tights
School tie (elastic tie for KS1 and then moving to normal tie).
Reception Class do not need to wear a tie.
<b>Optional Summer Variations</b>
Smart grey tailored shorts
Green and white checked (not striped) Summer dress
Plain, non-branded caps should be worn when outside to protect from the sun.

Children are permitted to arrive at school wearing the correct PE kit on their allocated days. Branded sports kits are not acceptable.

<b>Physical Education - Indoor</b>
Green PE shorts
White T-shirt (T-Shirt with school logo can be bought from the office)
Trainers/Plimsolls (trainers do not have to be black)
<b>Physical Education - Outdoor</b>
As above
Whitchurch Green Hoodie (can be purchased from the office)/Green Sweatshirt
Black/Green tracksuits bottoms/joggers
<b>Physical Education - General</b>
No leggings
Shoulder length hair to be tied back
Earrings to be removed or tape placed over them
Jewellery to be removed for PE Lessons

<b>Non-uniform/Mufti days</b>
Cropped tops and hot pants are not permitted

<b>Swimming</b>
Swimming costume (one-piece) or trunks
Bag containing a towel and pants
Swimming hat (goggles are permitted with written consent from parent/carer)

### Where to purchase School Uniform

The following items can be purchased from School office, via ParentMail:

- Bottle green jumpers and cardigans embroidered with the school's name
- School ties
- White PE t-shirts bearing the school logo
- Green PE shorts
- Green PE Sweatshirt/Hoodie
- Book bags bearing the school logo
- Backpacks from Year 3. Please note – we do not have the space to store large bags in the EYFS and KS1 areas.

All other items can be purchased from high street shops.

Second hand uniform is available from the School 'Thrift Shop'. Parents kindly donate items that are not being used anymore.

Please contact the school through the office if you would like to know more about School Uniform.