



Uniform Policy

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of all the items needed for the children's school uniform in this policy.

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

As part of our ethos we would like all children to wear the correct uniform properly at all times. This includes to and from school, the playground, corridors and classrooms.

It is important for the promotion of social independence that the younger children are able to manage their own clothes and shoes. This should be considered when purchasing school uniform.

In order to return lost property, all uniform and personal items should be clearly marked with your child's name.

Nursery Uniform

White polo shirt with/without nursery logo

Navy Nursery Sweatshirt

Navy tracksuit bottoms.

School Uniform

Boys

White shirt & tie, navy jumper or school polo shirt and school navy sweatshirt

Girls P1 - P3

White blouse & tie, navy cardigan or school polo shirt and school navy sweatshirt.

Girls P4 - P7

White blouse & tie, navy cardigan or school polo shirt and school navy sweatshirt.

Grey trousers and black shoes.

Navy pinafore/skirt & white socks or plain navy school trousers and black shoes.

Navy pinafore/skirt & white socks and black shoes.

Woodsides, Main Street, Larne sell school ties, polo shirts, sweatshirts as well as fleeces and raincoats in school colours.

Parents also have the option of a plain red polo shirt, however please ensure it is a similar red. (Asda's red polo-shirt is a similar red.)

Sweatshirts and polo shirts with the school badge are sold mainly by Woodsides, but are also available from schoolwearni.com.

PE Kit

Children should also have the following items for physical education:

Shorts, t-shirt and gym shoes. Slip on or Velcro fastening gym shoes are better for infant children than lace ups.

Property:

The child's name should be written on all clothing and items of PE kit.

Jewellery, hair and make up

Children are expected to leave jewellery, make up and fashion hairstyles for the weekends and holiday times. False nails hinder a child's ability to write and should not be worn.

Children are not allowed to come to school with unnatural coloured dyed or outlandish/extreme hairstyles that cause a distraction to others.

The only jewellery permitted in school on health and safety grounds is a wristwatch and a medical bracelet. Watches should be removed and medical bracelets covered with a sweatband to partake in P.E.

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Earrings

Earrings are strongly discouraged in school. If parents opt for their child to wear earrings they must only be small studs, either silver or gold.

Children who are participating in P.E., swimming, sports clubs and /or physical activities must not wear earrings. On days when these activities are scheduled

children must leave their earrings at home or place a plaster over them. We do not want pupils removing and replacing earrings. This is due to the potential risk of injury, earrings being lost/stolen and the spread of infections. It is therefore recommended that children do not come to school wearing earrings on these days. Children will be asked to remove earrings and to store them themselves. ***Staff will not be responsible for the removal, insertion or storage of earrings.***

Make up and cosmetics are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform.

Non – compliance with school uniform

The Principal can discipline pupils for breach of uniform policy. This may mean exclusion if a child persistently breaches school uniform policy. Children will be sent home with a note to parents highlighting the breach of policy and asking them to remedy the breach.

However, the school will endeavour to establish the reasons for non-compliance and will be sensitive if parents are in financial difficulty. The school may loan missing items of uniform to ensure that children do not feel discriminated against, should parents be unable or unwilling to provide them with the required items of uniform. A School Uniform Grant is available to parents who qualify and meet the criteria for Free School Meals.

No child will be disciplined for non-compliance because of their particular cultural, race or religious dress code.

Role of Parents and Governors

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Principal. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a child with disabilities then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Principal.

The Board of Governors supports the Principal in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Board of Governors will:

- Seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- Consider with the Principal any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
- Require the Principal to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Governors every four years, or earlier if considered necessary.

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Signed _____ Chair of Governors _____ date

Signed _____ Principal _____ date

Endorsed by Board of Governors – February 2018

Due to be reviewed – February 2021.