

Greenside Primary School

Uniform Policy

Introduction

It is our school policy 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 pride in their personal appearance.

Uniform items in the school colours are readily available at local shops and supermarkets, as well as from the Gateshead West Pre-Loved Uniform Scheme. Items of uniform with the school logo can be purchased from SALTO in Prudhoe (www.saltouk.com). A complete list of the items needed for school uniform, including those for P.E., is included in this policy.

Aims and Objectives

The aims of this policy are to:

- ensure clarity of what can be worn or not at school;
- promote a sense of pride in our school;
- help to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- ensure that our pupils can be clearly identified with our school;
- support our commitment to inclusion;
- prevent pupils from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class;
- ensure pupils' uniforms are practical, smart, affordable and are suitable, with health and safety in mind.

Uniform is worn by all pupils in school (Nursery to Year 6).

Main Uniform

- Yellow polo shirt (logo optional)
- Royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan (logo optional)
- Grey or black trousers
- Grey dress, skirt or shorts
- Blue and white gingham dress (optional in summer)
- Plain black sensible shoes (no trainers or sandals)
- No jewellery
- No nail varnish or make up

PE Uniform (Reception - Year 6)

- White polo shirt (logo optional)
- Plain black jogging bottoms or leggings
- Blue or black shorts (warmer weather)
- Trainers or plimsols for younger children (preferably black)
- PE outer top (provided by school and kept in school)

We ask that PE uniform is brought to school in a small drawstring bag so it can be kept in lockers or on pegs. Those children who do not leave their PE uniform in school should bring it every day.

Staff will advise when Reception children need a PE uniform, this is not at the start of the school year. Nursery children do not need a PE uniform.

Uniform Suppliers

There is no requirement that children wear uniform bearing the school logo but we do ask that children wear uniform in the colours listed above. Uniform without logos is available from most supermarket chains in our school colours. Uniform items with the school logo can be ordered from SALTO, Prudhoe (www.saltouk.com) and the school office can provide you with further information about this.

The Ryton Hub also hosts the Gateshead West Pre-Loved Uniform Scheme where many items of uniform and other clothing and school supplies are available for a donation. School collects any spare uniform clothing items across the year on their behalf and can support parents to access this. At times across the year, school will also have items of pre-loved uniform available.

Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exception to this rule is a small watch. Children must not wear devices that are capable of taking photographs or making recordings. Children are required to remove watches during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury.

If parents wish to have their child's ears pierced, it is suggested that this is done at the beginning of the summer holidays, so that by the time the autumn terms starts, studs may be removed. Earrings represent a considerable accident risk both in physical education and play and children should not wear them in school. For the child's own health and safety, they may not be able to participate in the full range of activities offered within a PE, playtime or school session if they are wearing earrings (or spacers) and they will be asked to remove them if worn during the school day. If the child is unable to remove their own earrings, alternative activities may need to be arranged for the child and parents will be contacted to ensure that earrings are not worn in future. School staff cannot accept responsibility for the removal of earrings. Earrings must also be removed for swimming lessons according to swimming pool policy.

Hair bands, ribbons, bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either blue, blue gingham, grey or black. Hair bands should not have objects attached to them such as flowers.

Make up, nail varnish and hair colouring should not be worn to school unless for it is for a themed event or a non-uniform day. This should be removed before a normal school day.

Footwear

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow pupils to wear shoes with platform soles, Heelys or high heels, even on non-uniform days. All pupils are required to wear flat, plain black shoes without logos. These should be closed in with no toes visible. If children wear boots to school in the winter, they should bring their school shoes to change into. Sandals and flip-flops are not permitted due to health and safety reasons.

Adaptations for Weather

In the cold weather, particularly in the winter months, children are expected to wear coats and are permitted to wear a hat, earmuffs, scarf and gloves. Children should bring caps or sun hats in the summer. Please ensure that all items are clearly named.

In colder weather, children may wear base layers under their polo-shirts and school jumpers.

In warmer weather, children should wear cool, loose-fitting items of uniform.

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 or PE clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from school where possible. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter and may be requested to return to school with correct clothing. 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 our school uniform, the school will consider such requests sympathetically.

The Role of Staff

Staff should support the leadership team in maintaining high standards of uniform dress. Where pupils fail to wear the correct uniform, staff should make discreet and sympathetic enquiries or refer these to a senior member of staff.

The Role of Governors

The governing body supports the school in implementing the school's uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Special Circumstances

Special dispensation can be requested for temporary exception from the prescribed school uniform or elements of it. This will usually be on medical grounds or for other exceptional circumstances. The Headteacher will have the ultimate decision on granting or refusing this.

Persistent Non-wearing of Uniform

We would always make contact with families of children who persistently do not wear school uniform to try and ascertain the reason for this. We would deal with this on a case-by-case basis, but it remains our policy that school uniform should be worn.

Lost Property

Any unidentified items of school uniform will be stored for a short period of time. Pupils and families are encouraged to contact the school office to reclaim lost property, on the understanding that the found item will be clearly named. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing. Please help us to reunite lost items of clothing with their owners by labelling items with your child's name.

Next Review: May 2025