

Cotherstone Primary School



School Uniform and Appearance Policy

Reviewed Date: February 2021

Review due: 2024

School Uniform and Appearance Policy

The Department for Education “strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can play a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone”

Introduction

Our school uniform is important to us, as children are at all times ambassadors for the school. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security, assisting the school to identify individual pupils in order to maintain good order and spot intruders more easily. Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times.

At Cotherstone Primary School, we believe that a school uniform is important, because it:

- ◆ is practical and smart
- ◆ wears well
- ◆ contributes to a sense of belonging
- ◆ gives a common purpose
- ◆ fosters a feeling of pride
- ◆ reduces ‘fashion competition’ between children
- ◆ is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money
- ◆ is designed with health and safety in mind

Aims

Through this policy we aim to:

promote an atmosphere which encourages effort, enjoyment and a celebration of the achievements of all our pupils. The schools’ concern for these high standards is also reflected in the pride we take in our school uniform and feeling of belonging it creates.

Uniform

In order to maintain a strong sense of identity and belonging within our school, we require all pupils to wear school uniform which consists of;

- ◆ Navy sweatshirt (with or without the school logo on).
- ◆ Navy cardigan (with or without the school logo on)
- ◆ Navy fleece (with or without the school logo on)
- ◆ Emerald green polo shirt (with or without the school logo on)
- ◆ Black or grey trousers jeans please
- ◆ Black or grey skirt
- ◆ Black flat sensible, safe shoes
- ◆ Black flat boots as a winter option

Summer Options

- ◆ Plain black or grey shorts
- ◆ Sandals with socks (no open toes please)
- ◆ Gingham dresses – blue/green
- ◆ Any cap to protect from the sun

PE Kit

- ◆ Emerald green t-shirt
- ◆ Plain black or grey shorts or leggings
- ◆ Trainers for outdoor games only
- ◆ Plimsolls for indoor PE – this is for health and safety reasons
- ◆ Tracksuit for outdoor games

Jewellery

Pupils should not wear jewellery to school for health and safety reasons.

The only acceptable items of jewellery to be worn are a wristwatch and earring studs and exceptions may be made for simple jewellery worn for religious reasons upon written application to the head teacher.

Should a pupil have pierced ears, plain studs only should be worn and in order to comply with health and safety regulations, must be removed or covered with a plaster during all PE activities. Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any jewellery that is lost.

Watches may be worn to school. During PE lessons watches must be removed and put in a safe location at the child's discretion. Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches that are lost.

Make-up

No make-up is to be worn to school and no nail varnish should be worn on nails or toes.

Hair

We recommend that hair should be neat and tidy and that long hair is tied back during the school day. During PE lessons long hair must be tied back.

Many of the school uniform items above are readily available from a link on the school website and from supermarkets– if parents and carers find it difficult to obtain any item, please contact the school. Our uniform has been kept simple to avoid unnecessary expense. We expect all pupils to follow the dress code as written above. The school usually has a good selection of second hand uniform which can be purchased for a donation to the Friends of Cotherstone School.

Role of the Head teacher and Governing Body

- ◆ The Head teacher will ensure that pupils comply with the uniform policy agreed by the governing body.
- ◆ The Head Teacher has a duty to enforce the school uniform throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day to day discipline in the school.
- ◆ The Governing body should be receptive to any reasonable complaint from parents or carers, concerning uniform handling it respectfully, considering fully the issues they raise. Governors should aim to work with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Role of the Parents/Guardians

- ◆ To ensure that their child / children adhere to the school's uniform policy.
- ◆ Ensure that they come to school in uniform every day unless there are special circumstances such as Christmas parties or charity fund raising.
- ◆ Parents and carers should raise any complaints about the school uniform by following the school's complaints procedure.

Racial Equality & Equal Opportunities

Cotherstone Primary School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

If parents have difficulties regarding this policy then they should contact the school for support and guidance. The Local Authority does have a fund available which parents may apply to if they have difficulties purchasing uniform.

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the set uniform respects other policies which address race relations, sex discrimination and allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals.

The Governing body at Cotherstone Primary School will respect variations to our school uniform if they are directly related to established religious or cultural traditions. However, any variation will be dealt with on an individual basis and judgements will remain at the discretion of the Head Teacher and the Governing Body.

Non-Compliance with the School Uniform Policy

Initially the Head teacher or Deputy head teacher will talk with the pupil to see if there is a reason why the child is not in school uniform.

Secondly, parents may be contacted and asked to bring in appropriate school uniform for the child to change into.

As an alternative to this, a supply of spare uniform will be kept in school and children may be asked to change into this.

Exclusion is not normally an appropriate response to breaches of school uniform/appearance policies. However, where these breaches are persistent and in open defiance of the school's uniform or appearance policy, and where all other avenues for resolving the uniform dispute have been exhausted, then the school may consider exclusion as a last resort depending on the circumstances of the case.