

New Park Primary Academy – Uniform Policy

Principles

We believe wearing appropriate uniform is an important part of being ready and prepared for the day. It develops a sense of belonging and school identity and promotes a socially inclusive and equal environment for all children. We have high expectations of our children and expect them to take pride in wearing their school uniform and coming to school ready to learn.

Our Uniform:

- Jade sweatshirt or cardigan with the New Park school logo (available to buy from Emblazon): No other sweatshirts or cardigans are allowed
- Plain black or grey trousers, plain black or grey skirt or grey pinafore dress –no jeans, leggings, jogging bottoms or denim material trousers
- Plain white shirt or white polo shirt (must have collar).
- Plain black or grey ankle-length socks. Tights may be worn as long as they are black or grey
- Plain black shoes. No boots, heels, sandals or flip flops. No logos

Summer options:

- Grey or black tailored knee length shorts
- Blue Gingham dress
- Hat or cap (taken off once indoors)
- Plain white socks

Other options:

- Branded school book bags and PE bags are also available to purchase from Emblazon. These are NOT compulsory items of school uniform

Shoes:

School shoes should be all black, flat and logo-free. Boots, including ankle boots, sandals, flip-flops and sports-branded trainers are not allowed at school. Shoes should not have overly elaborate buckles or embellishments. In very wet or cold weather children can wear wellies or warm boots to school and change in the cloakroom. Children must be able to put on and take off their shoes themselves. Nursery and Reception children should have shoes that fasten with Velcro or a buckle.

Nursery:

Nursery children are not required to wear the school uniform.

PE Kit:

For health and safety reasons it is essential that children are appropriately dressed for any physical activity. PE is a statutory element of the national curriculum and children should have their PE kit in school on the appropriate days.

- Plain black shorts or black tracksuit trousers
- Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt – not the same shirt that has been worn during the day
- Black plimsolls for indoor P.E. Trainers may be worn for outdoor P.E
- All jewellery must be removed or covered for PE lessons. Plasters or tape must be provided by parents for jewellery that cannot be removed

Swimming:

For the year groups which attend swimming lessons the following is required:

- One-piece costume, trunks or swimming shorts (shorts must not be baggy or longer than mid-thigh)
- Hair bobbles to tie up long hair
- Swimming cap
- Towel

Children will not be allowed in the pool if:

- They are wearing jewellery (including earrings)
- They are wearing stick on tattoos
- They are wearing nail varnish
- They are wearing a two-piece swimming costume, or swimming shorts that are longer than mid-thigh length or are baggy

Jewellery:

Children who have pierced ears will be permitted to wear one pair of plain studs. No other jewellery is permitted. Studs must be covered with tape during P.E or other active lessons which is in keeping with health and safety guidance for schools. Plasters or tape must be provided by parents for jewellery that cannot be removed. We recognise that children may need to wear an item of jewellery for religious reasons and that this is a cultural and religious need that should be respected. These items will need to be removed or covered during P.E. The school is unable to take responsibility for the safekeeping of any items of jewellery throughout the day.

Make up/ Hair:

Children are not permitted to wear makeup to school. This includes nail varnish and temporary tattoos. Children's hair must be kept neat and tidy. Hair which is below the shoulder must be tied back. Extreme haircuts, shaved hair designs, dyed colours etc. are not appropriate for school and are not permitted. The school reserves the right to make a judgement on the suitability or unsuitability of pupils' hair and appearance. Children with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Bandana style headbands and flowers/bows or excessive hair accessories are not to be worn; however, plain hair clips or bands are acceptable.

Labelling

All clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with the pupil's name. The school is not responsible for misplaced or lost clothing.

Safeguarding:

The school has a duty to safeguard and promote the welfare of all its pupils. Children will be expected to wear school uniform which means that children are easily identifiable within the school and when outside in the community. The school also has a responsibility to protect pupils and their families from the pressure to wear expensive or high fashion items and to promote a cohesive environment. Wearing school uniform helps to minimise social pressures promotes harmony between different groups within the school and reduces instances of bullying and social exclusion based on appearance.

Race Equality/ Equal Opportunities:

The governing body and school staff have a duty to ensure that all pupils are treated equally and that any disadvantages are addressed. The wearing of school uniform is an essential part of promoting equality and building positive learning community that is free from discrimination. The school will respect variations to the uniform policy if they are directly in relation to religious, cultural or medical reasons. Variations will be dealt with on an individual basis and judgements will remain the discretion of the head teacher and the governing body.

Role of the Class teacher and Support Staff:

All staff have a crucial leadership role to play in school and should act as positive role models for children, promoting the ethos and vision of the school at all times. It is expected that:

- Staff set a good example and dress in a smart and appropriate manner (no jeans, leggings or track suits unless leading sporting or practical activities)
- Address issues with children when the uniform policy is not being adhered to
- Promote the uniform policy at all times in their interactions with parents, pupils and in the wider community
- Act as ambassadors for the school in both conduct and appearance

Role of Head Teacher/ Governing Body:

The Head Teacher and Governing Body have an important role in working together to ensure that the school uniform policy reflects the ethos and values of the school and is adhered to by staff and children. It is expected that:

- The Head Teacher will address issues of non-compliance with uniform policy with pupils and their parents as part of maintaining the day to day discipline of the school
- The Head Teacher has a duty to promote the uniform policy at school events, through school publications and communications, as part of the induction process and in individual dealings with parents
- The Governing Body has a duty to monitor the effectiveness and implementation of the school uniform policy
- The Head Teacher and the Governing Body have a duty to listen to any reasonable complaint from parents/carers or staff concerning the implementation of the uniform policy and work with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome

Role of Parents and Carers:

Parents have a crucial role to play in ensuring that their children arrive at school ready to learn. Wearing of the agreed school uniform is considered an important part of learning readiness. It is expected that parents:

- Ensure their child is dressed in line with the agreed uniform policy unless there are special and exceptional circumstances that prevent this
- Engage positively with the school when issues arise regarding the school uniform policy

Non- Compliance with the school uniform policy:

Parents will be well informed in advance of joining the school that the school uniform policy is compulsory. Where a child does not follow the agreed policy the following actions will be taken in the following order

1. Discreet and gentle reminder to the child that they need to wear the appropriate uniform. Discreet reminder to parents and carers from class teacher that the child is not wearing uniform and if necessary a reminder of the correct uniform
2. Verbal reminder from a member of the senior leadership team to parents/carers that their child must wear agreed school uniform. Parents invited to discuss any difficulties they may be having in providing the correct school uniform
3. Written reminder to parents/carers that their child must wear agreed school uniform and warning that continued non-compliance may result in their child being asked to go home to change

Where a pupil is not adhering to the school uniform policy, the school should be considerate and discreetly try to establish why not. There may be good reasons why a pupil is not attending school in the correct uniform. For example, their uniform may have been lost, stolen or damaged. Sending the pupil home or excluding them may not be appropriate in every case. If a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform because their parents are in financial difficulties, the school should be sensitive to the needs of the pupil. The school will give parents time to purchase the required items or consider using the school's hardship fund to purchase uniform for the child. Pupils will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, if their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. In cases of persistent non-compliance with the agreed uniform policy, where attempts at financial and other support have been exhausted, parents may be called to collect their child from school and ensure they are returned in the correct uniform.

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