



West Tyne Church Schools Federation

School Uniform Policy

Signed: M Glenton Date: April 2022

Date Reviewed by Governing Body: May 2024 Review Date: Summer 2026

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 the items needed for school uniform in our prospectus. It consists of:

For the School Day

- Bottle Green Sweatshirt or cardigan with logo (optional)
- White polo shirt or shirt
- Grey/black trousers or skirt (with no designs or logos on)
- Purple gingham dress
- Grey/black knee length shorts
- Plain dark shoes/trainers (not colourful, e.g. light blue, yellow or green)

For Physical Activity

- White t shirt
- Black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms
- Suitable footwear e.g. trainers, black plimsolls
- Bottle Green Hoodie with logo (optional, but please no other colour/large sports designs or lettering)

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.

Jewellery, Make-up and Nails

In line with the aims and objectives of our School Uniform Policy, and particularly on health and safety grounds, whilst we value individuality, we do not allow children to wear jewellery, makeup, nail varnish or false nails of any type in our schools. These can be a distraction to learning or make the child subject to focus by other pupils.

If a child is wearing jewellery (including earrings), they will be asked to remove the item(s). If the child cannot remove their own earrings, teachers are unable to remove them. In this instance, the teacher will discuss this with the parent at the end of the day. Staff will remind parents that this is not school uniform and request that the item(s) is/are not worn on subsequent school days.

The exceptions to this rule are small objects of religious significance and children's medical identification needs. However prior approval of a child wearing any such item should be sought in advance from the Head Teacher, failing which the above procedure will be applied.

If a child is wearing makeup they will be asked to remove it by a member of staff. The class teacher will contact parents to ask them to remove nail varnish/false nails. Staff will remind parents this is not school uniform and request that they ensure makeup/false nails/nail varnish is/are not worn on subsequent school days.

Footwear

We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. We want children (and staff) to be comfortable in their footwear, so plain, dark shoes or trainers are permitted but brightly coloured or light trainers are not part of our uniform policy.

Hairstyles

To prepare our pupils for their Secondary Education, we ask that hair should be tidy, clean and suitable for a working environment. We request that extreme hairstyles (includes hair which has been dyed) are avoided as this may be a distraction to learning in class.

The Role of Parents/Carers

We ask all parents/carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents/carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the head teacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious or medical 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 pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the head teacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

The Role of Governors

The governing body supports the head teacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers representations from parents regarding this policy and liaises with the head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the governor's 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.

Cutting the Cost of School Uniform

Pre-loved uniform will be made available for parents within the federation through donations by other parents. It is optional whether parents purchase school uniform that has a logo or is the required colour but available from supermarkets/shops (such as Asda and Tesco). Children are permitted to wear trainers rather than school shoes to cut the cost of buying additional footwear. Trainers must however, be plain black in colour.

Monitoring and Review

When monitoring this policy, the governing body will:

- consider with the head teacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations or information from parents who have contacted the head teacher/governors.
- require the head teacher to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.