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## UNIFORM POLICY

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Date this policy was formally reviewed and agreed by Resources Committee:	
Signed on behalf of the Governing Body by:	Lindsey Wardle
Signature:	
Date:	7 <sup>th</sup> December 2023
Date of next review:	Autumn Term 2024 (annually)

## **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 wear their shirts tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take a pride in their personal appearance.

Items of uniform can be bought with the school logo on from Logos Unlimited Uniform Shop on the Team Valley Estate in Gateshead, whilst other plain school uniform items are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform, including those for P.E. and Outdoor Learning, is included in this policy.

**“We believe that the wearing of a school uniform enables students to identify with their school, gives a sense of belonging, is practical and smart, reinforces a positive work ethos and reduces expenditure for parents/carers”.**

## **Aims and objectives**

The aims of this policy are to:

ensure clarity of what can be worn or not at Carr Hill Community Primary School;

promote a sense of pride in our Carr Hill Community Primary School;

help to create a sense of community and belonging towards the Carr Hill Community Primary School;

ensure that our pupils can be clearly identified with our Carr Hill Community Primary School;

support our commitment to Carr Hill Community Primary School;

prevent pupils from wearing ‘fashion clothes’ that could be distracting in Carr Hill Community Primary School;

ensure pupils’ uniforms are practical, smart, affordable and are suitable, with health and safety in Carr Hill Community Primary School;

ensure that pupils are dressed smartly in Carr Hill Community Primary School.

## **Our School Uniform:**

Bordeaux coloured Jumper or cardigan (these can be purchased with our badge on from Logos Unlimited)

White polo shirt

Black or grey trousers, shorts or skirt/pinafore dress or a red checked gingham dress for the Autumn/Summer warmer months

Black, grey or white socks or grey or red tights and black shoes

### **Our PE Uniform:**

Black shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms

Plain white t-shirt or white polo shirt

A pair of trainers that are safe and suitable to wear for physical education lessons

### **Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and nail varnish**

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. This is at the advice of Gateshead's Health and Safety team and our PE support service. The exception to this rule are small objects of religious significance or stud earrings (one stud in each ear is acceptable). Children are required to be able to remove any items of jewellery during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. The school website indicates when PE lessons are to take place. ***Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings. If children are unable to remove their own earrings, then parents or carers should take them out before children come to school for their PE lessons.*** Children are not permitted to wear false eyelashes.

Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain. Hair bands should not have objects attached to them such as flowers. Make up and nail varnish are not be worn to school unless for a celebration or function. Pupils are free to wear a headscarf or other hair coverings for religious reasons at school if they wish to. These must however be plain coloured. Headscarves of the type which drape to shoulder length or just below are acceptable.

### **Footwear**

For health and safety reasons, we do not allow pupils to wear shoes with platform soles. All pupils are required to wear flat, plain black shoes without logos. These should be closed in with no toes visible. If boots are worn these should also be flat and plain black. Sandals, 'Heelys', high-heels 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/ear-muffs, scarf and gloves. Please ensure that all items are clearly named. On hot days all children will not be expected to wear jumpers. Items such as polo-shirts/short-sleeved shirts, tailored shorts and summer dresses are all appropriate in the hot weather.

## **The Role of Parents and Carers**

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents and carers is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, and good repair and that the child's name is written on all items. If a parent or carer has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request, they are asked to speak confidentially to a member of staff to discuss the issues.

Parents and carers should be assured that we will do all we can to help. Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform (plain black shorts, leggings or joggers) or PE clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from school where possible (the governing body of the school have purchased items such as plain black leggings, short and joggers) for children to wear.

Parents and carers 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 or carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from our school uniform, the school will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent or carer would like to request a modification to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the Headteacher.

## **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. Staff should also set an example in the clothing they wear to school – further information is found in the Staff Handbook.

## **The Role of Governors**

The governing body supports the school in implementing the school's uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents and carers 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 and/or Deputy 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 each case 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 taken to the school office. Pupils and families are encouraged to look here 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.

### **Help providing Uniform**

School will hold uniform swap afternoons and we will always work sympathetically with families who require support to ensure children come to school in the correct uniform.

We are aware of other sources of school uniform. We have lots of pre-used uniform in school.

Please contact us to donate or to request clothing. This can really help our environment. We also have a group, run by parents and carers of Carr Hill, who collect second hand uniform and pass it on. You can reach out to this group on <https://www.facebook.com/groups/345670746679468>

We are also aware of this group who do great work in the North East and can help: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/CommunitySchoolClothingScheme/>

If you are struggling to meet the cost of school uniform – please let us know – we can look to see what additional support we can give you.