




SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Date this policy was formally reviewed and agreed by C&P Committee:	
Signed on behalf of the Governing Body by:	Lindsey Wardle
Signature:	
Date:	9 th October 2024
Date of next review:	Autumn Term 2025 (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 at Team Valley Trading Estate, whilst other plain school uniform items are easily available at local supermarkets.

“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;
- promote a sense of pride in our Carr Hill Community Primary School;
- help to create a sense of community and belonging to Carr Hill Community Primary School;
- ensure that our pupils can be clearly identified with Carr Hill Community Primary School;
- support our commitment to Carr Hill Community Primary School;
- prevent pupils from wearing ‘fashion clothes’ that could be distracting;
- ensure pupils’ uniforms are practical, smart, affordable and suitable;
- ensure that pupils are dressed smartly.

Our School Uniform:

- Bordeaux coloured Jumper or cardigan (purchased 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

- Jewellery is not allowed to be worn by children for health and safety reasons. This is at the advice of Gateshead's Health & Safety Adviser and PE Support Service. The exception to this rule is 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, parent/carer must take them out before the child comes to school.

- False eyelashes must not be worn by children.
- Hair bands, ribbons/bows or ‘scrunchies’ should be plain and not have objects attached to them such as flowers.

- Make up and nail varnish must not to be worn unless approved by the Headteacher/Class Teacher for a celebration or function taking place.
- Headscarf's or other hair coverings can be worn for religious reasons. These must however a plain colour. Headscarves 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.

Children are permitted to come to school on their birthday in casual smart clothes rather than their uniform.

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 work sympathetically with families who require support to ensure their child comes to school in the correct uniform. 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.

We 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 at <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/>