

# Edward Peake C of E (VC) Middle School

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11 October 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

I wanted to take this opportunity to write to all parents and address some PE kit concerns some of our parents have raised. Firstly, I would like to apologise for any confusion caused and hopefully this information letter will help to clarify our uniform policy.

Please note that all decisions are carefully thought through and made with the best interests of our pupils in mind.

## **Kit Colours and expectations**

After Covid restrictions were lifted, we listened to our pupils and parents and decided not to go back to using changing rooms. We found that the positives far outweighed the negatives.

1. Pupils benefit from having two full teaching hours of physical activity without wasted time for changing.
2. Pupils with body shape anxiety, no longer become anxious about changing in front of their peers.
3. SEND pupils with sensory challenges, no longer struggle with crowded and noisy changing rooms.
4. No more changing room bullying or fall outs.
5. Parents save (in some cases) hundreds of pounds by not having to replace lost school uniforms or PE kits.

Unfortunately, there are many pupils coming to school in kit that does not meet our PE kit criteria. Our kit policy is as follows and further details of acceptable items can be found on our website <https://www.edwardpeake.beds.sch.uk/parents/school-uniform/>.

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Trainers that support ankles (skateboard trainers are not appropriate for physical activity)</li><li>2. White ankle socks or long pale blue socks.</li><li>3. Plain black shorts (<b>loose fitting no cycling shorts</b>)</li><li>4. Black or navy blue jogging bottoms.</li><li>5. Edward Peake PE sky blue polo top</li><li>6. Edward Peake hoodie or jumper</li></ol> |
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## **Leggings and cycling shorts**

Our PE kit policy **does not** allow leggings or cycling shorts. The reasoning for this decision is that many leggings and cycling shorts are not suitably designed for physical activity as the material is too thin.

## **What happens if a pupil is wearing the wrong kit?**

We are not aiming to catch out any pupil that does not come to school in the correct kit. Our objective is to improve personal organisation and prepare them for situations in later life that may require a dress code or a uniform.

If a pupil comes to school wearing incorrect kit:

1. Pupils will have a discussion with their teacher to find out why their kit is incorrect and give the teacher an opportunity to help if required.
2. Parents will be notified via class charts or a telephone call that their child has turned up to PE in an incorrect kit 3 times in a half term (kit marks are reset each half term).
3. After school reflections are given once we have notified parents and the pupil still attends PE in the incorrect kit.
4. Pupil will lose the privilege of coming to school in their PE kit and will need to come to school in their school uniform. They will then have to use the changing rooms to get changed before and after the lesson. **If a child still arrives in the incorrect uniform they will have to wear items that we have onsite.**

We always try to support our families. If you are struggling to obtain the correct kit, please contact us via the school office and we will find a solution.

I hope this helps parents with clarity and I thank you very much for your continued support.

Yours sincerely



Mr A Carter  
Subject Leader for PE & Residential trip lead

