



Park View School
Together We Grow Stronger

Park View School

Student Dress Code Policy

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Authorised by Chair of Governors

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Statement of intent

Park View School is committed to promoting equality and value for money, and to ensuring that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

This policy has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure pupils wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment.

It is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform. We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports-specific attire.

1. Legal framework

1.1. This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Education Act 2011
- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010
- The General Data Protection Regulation
- Data Protection Act 2018

1.2. This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2013) 'School uniform'

1.3. This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality & Diversity Policy

2. Roles and responsibilities

2.1. The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the Head Teacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

2.2. The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

2.3. Teachers are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

2.4. Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Head Teacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

2.5. Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Head Teacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost and availability

- 3.1. In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the school ensures that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.
- 3.2. The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

- 3.3. The school works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible.
- 3.4. The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.
- 3.5. The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms.
- 3.6. Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents struggling to meet the associated costs.

4. Religious clothing

- 4.1. Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community.
- 4.2. The school endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met where possible.
- 4.3. Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Head Teacher and Governing Board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

5. Equality

- 5.1. The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.
- 5.2. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of girls' and boys' uniforms are not disproportionate.
- 5.3. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.
- 5.4. Pupils identifying as a member of the opposite sex are able to adapt uniform regulations.

6. Complaints and challenges

- 6.1. The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.
- 6.2. To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.
- 6.3. When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.
- 6.4. Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

7. School uniform supplier

- 7.1. Our school uniform supplier is:
 - Workwear and Schoolwear Co.
 - 58/56 Ocean Rd, South Shields, NE33 2JD
 - Tel: 0191 455 3535

8. Uniform assistance

- 8.1. Please contact us on 0191 454 1568 or email admin@parkview-school.co.uk if you require assistance with the cost of school uniform.

9. Non-compliance

- 9.1. Teachers are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behavioural Policy.
- 9.2. The Head Teacher, or a person authorised by the Head Teacher, is permitted to ask a pupil to briefly go home to remedy breaches to the school's uniform.
- 9.3. When deciding whether to allow a pupil to return home, the school considers the pupil's age and vulnerability, the length of time it will take, and the availability of the pupil's parents.
- 9.4. Where a pupil has been sent home to rectify uniform breaches, the absence is recorded as 'authorised'.
- 9.5. If a pupil repeatedly breaches uniform rules, or takes longer than necessary to rectify the absence, the absence is counted as 'unauthorised'.

9.6. Parents will be notified in all cases.

10.School colours

10.1. Our school colours are as follows:

- White polo shirt with school logo
- Navy blue sweatshirt with school logo
- Black school trousers

11.The uniform

11.1. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral as possible.

11.2. Pupils who identify as the opposite sex to their birth sex are permitted to wear the uniform of their preferred gender.

11.3. The boys' uniform is as follows:

- Navy Blue School sweatshirt with school logo
- White polo shirt with school logo
- Black trousers
- Black shoes

11.4. Trainers are not considered suitable footwear.

11.5. The girls' uniform is as follows:

- Navy Blue School sweatshirt with school logo
- White polo shirt with school logo
- Black trousers or Black skirt
- Black shoes

11.6. Pupils who are wearing skirts should wear traditional school skirts and not be made of Lycra or of a body hugging style. Leggings should not be worn. Tights should be plain black. We depend upon the discretion of parents/carers in ensuring their child does not attend school wearing skirts that are too short. We will contact parent/carers of any student who insists on wearing skirts at an inappropriate length or style.

11.7. High heels are not permitted.

11.8. Sensible plain black shoes must be worn by both boys and girls.

11.9. Black jeans are not permitted.

11.10. PE kits are as follows:

- Gym or training shoes
- Dark tracksuit bottoms or dark shorts
- School named white polo shirt

11.11. Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

12. Jewellery

12.1. We operate a no jewellery policy at Park View. For obvious reasons of safety, jewellery (other than a watch) should not be worn in school. Parents should note that students wearing jewellery may have it confiscated.

12.2. Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

12.3. Confiscated jewellery will only be returned at a time agreed by the member of staff or Pastoral staff. The school cannot accept responsibility for items of jewellery which are lost or damaged. Again, for obvious reasons we would advise against items of sentimental or monetary value being bought into school. N.B: Students should not attend school with any form of body piercing including nose, tongue and eye-brow studs.

13. Hairstyles

13.1. The school reserves the right to make a judgement on the suitability of pupils' hair and appearance.

13.2. Extreme hairstyles, such as mohawks and patterned or brightly coloured hair, are unacceptable.

13.3. Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds, taking into consideration each individual pupil's scenario.

13.4. Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk.

13.5. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

13.6. Hair extensions are not permitted.

14. Make-up

- 14.1. Excessive make-up should not be worn. Senior female staff will determine 'excessive'.

15. Personal Property

- 15.1. Dealing with lost property can be a major issue. We ask parent to ensure that all personal property is marked with the name of the pupil. We do not operate a 'lost property room'. In the event of a pupil's personal property being found in classrooms, the property will be left in the classroom for a reasonable time so that the student can retrieve it. After that, we will try to re-locate the property but it will eventually be passed on to a local charity.