



WESTCROFT
SCHOOL

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CENTRAL LEARNING
PARTNERSHIP TRUST

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

SEPTEMBER 2023

POLICY NAME: SCHOOL UNIFORM

POLICY DATE: SEPTEMBER 2023

REVIEW DATE: SEPTEMBER 2024

Signed: _____ Head Teacher

Signed: _____ Chair of Governors

Date: _____

School Uniform Policy

Introduction

This policy aims to

- Confirm our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explains how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

1. Our Schools legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics which include sex, race, religion or belief and gender assignment

To avoid discrimination our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that reflects their self identified gender
- Make sure our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allows pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Head of School who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

2 Aims and objectives

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside school (unless advised otherwise). We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our school website.

2.1 Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- Is practical and smart;
- Identifies the children with the school;
- Prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.

3 Jewellery

3.1 On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are:

- Ear-ring studs in pierced ears
- Small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or Sikh Kara

Also refer to specific jewellery policy.

4 Extreme haircuts

4.1 The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hair should be neat tidy and well groomed. Hair styles and colours which are considered extreme are not acceptable (dyed to an unnatural hair colour).

4.2 Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (No shorter than a number 2), extreme patterns 'V' styles, Mohican cuts, or dyed, tipped or dipped hair are also forbidden. Pupils with long hair should also tie it back for safety reasons.

5 Footwear

5.1 The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear black shoes as stated in the uniform list.

5.2 In winter time, winter black shoes or black boots may be worn – fashionable boots like Ugg boots are not allowed to be worn in school. Children coming to school during the winter months who wear boots should bring with them black school shoes or black plimsolls to change into.

6 The role of parents

6.1 We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

6.2 If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

7 The role of governors

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

7.2 It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

7.3 Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

8 Monitoring and review

8.1 The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- Seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- Considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- Requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

9 Uniform

The School Uniform is:

- Black trousers OR black school skirt
- Light blue polo shirt**
- Compulsory black sweatshirt with school logo on (available from Crested Schoolwear Wulfrun Centre, Wolverhampton)
- If preferred in summer (from Easter to the end of the Summer term), blue and white gingham dresses or light blue polo shirt and black shorts can be worn. NB. Trousers and shorts worn in school for uniform must be appropriate uniform style material and 'cut', not sportswear or fashion styles.
- The school strongly discourages the wearing of leather and expensive fashion coats/jackets since the school cannot take responsibility for loss or damage of items of clothing.

**A light blue polo shirt with a logo is available from Crested Schoolwear if you prefer

PE kit:

Pupils in will require:

- Trainers for outside use
- Navy blue PE shorts**
- Navy blue T-shirt with royal blue trim (with logo - available from Trutex, Wulfrun Centre, Wolverhampton)
- Navy tracksuit bottoms (optional)
- One piece swim suit or swim trunks & towel

Pupils will be advised on which day PE/swim kit is required in school at the start of each term.

All items of clothing – including shoes and wellingtons – should be clearly marked with the child's name.

**Navy blue shorts with a logo are available from Trutex if you prefer

Second Hand Uniform:

The school supported by the PTFA will ensure there are continuous opportunities for parents to purchase good quality second hand uniform for a minimum amount of money thus ensuring that affordable uniform is available to all families. This will be advertised on both the website and school social media sites.

NB: The school has used the DfE non-statutory guidance on school uniform and agrees with the guidance given in the DfE booklet which states: 'The school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. The Department strongly encourages schools to have a uniform as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage identity with, and support for schools ethos; ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils. The Department also encourages schools to have a very clear position about appearance such as hair colour, style and length and the wearing of jewellery and make-up.'