



## Wetheringsett C of E Primary School

### Uniform Policy

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### The Mustard Seed

"The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, when it is grown, it becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in its branches." Matthew 13:31 – 32

### The Mustard Seed

**"If you have faith as small as a mustard seed... no  
 will be impossible for you." Matthew 17:20-21**



## **Statement of Intent**

Wetheringsett C of E Primary School is committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances, social and cultural background or other protected characteristic.

This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with health and safety, value for money and practicality at its heart. Additionally, it is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging to our school. We believe that wearing a smart and practical uniform allows all children, regardless of their backgrounds, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for children to wear clothing that is conducive to a successful learning environment, including activity-appropriate clothing, such as sports attire.

Legal Framework This policy has due regard to all legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

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

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

- DfE (2014) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE guidance 2021 on cost of school uniforms
- DfE (2021) Guidance About Cost of School Uniforms Act
- DfE (2013) 'School Uniform' This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:
  - Equal Opportunities Policy
  - Safeguarding Policy
  - Complaints Policy

## **Key Personnel in Relation to this Policy:**

Chair of Governors

Executive

Headteacher

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

### **The Governing Board is responsible for:**

In consultation with the Executive Head Teacher and school community, establishing 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/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.

Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

### **The Executive Head Teacher is responsible for:**

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

### **Teaching and support staff are responsible for:**

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

### **Parents/carers are responsible for:**

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy
- Informing the Executive 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
- Labelling of clothing:  
School staff encourage good organisation of clothing and footwear, for example, designated spaces for children to keep belongings in and checking of labels. However, all pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name. Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their jumper, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher. Any lost clothing will be

retained by the school. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time

### **Pupils are responsible for:**

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Executive Head Teacher has granted an exemption
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. to develop a sense of belonging

### **Cost and Availability**

The school ensures that the School Uniform Policy does not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child. 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 and that parents/carers are also able to buy uniforms from non-specified suppliers that fit the colour/requirements of our school uniform.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents/carers and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms. Where changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

### **Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear**

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 health and safety concerns of the entire school community.

Parents/Carers are asked to make an appointment with the Executive Head Teacher to discuss the policy and to make any requests for ceremonial wear to be worn in school. Parents'/Carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Executive Head Teacher and Governing Board. This is always conducted in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

### **Equality**

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully. Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example, trousers versus skirts, are not disproportionate. The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible. We do not insist that children of any sex must wear specific items of clothing.

## **Complaints and Challenges**

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

## **School Uniform Purchase**

School uniform supplier: School sweatshirts, cardigans and book bags can be ordered online from our suppliers Brigade; [Parents Direct - Brigade Clothing, LTD](#)

Our uniform is based on burgandy and grey. Most chain stores can supply clothes of these colours.

## **Winter Uniform**

- Plain white shirts / blouses / Polo-neck t-shirts
- Grey or black trousers / skirts / pinafore dress
- Wetheringsett C of E Primary Burgandy School sweatshirts / cardigans

## **Summer Uniform**

- Plain white shirts / blouses / Polo-neck t-shirts
- Grey or black trousers / skirts / pinafore dress/ shorts (knee length)
- Maroon and white checked dresses

Black jeans and leggings are not permitted in day-to-day uniform.

## **Shoes**

Plain black shoes, suitable for running. High heels are not permitted. Children are encouraged to bring wellington boots in bad weather but should also bring in school shoes to change into.

## **Miscellaneous**

- Grey, black or white socks
- Grey or black tights
- Maroon book bag (with or without the school logo)

## **PE Uniform**

- Wetheringsett PE T shirt (or plain white T shirt until available, as P.E tops need to be ordered from school supplier)
- Navy / black shorts and Navy / black tracksuit bottoms in winter.
- Wetheringsett fleece or tracksuit top, these need to be ordered from school supplier.

- Trainers (we have found Velcro is a good idea for younger children until they can tie laces). We do not allow pupils to wear football boots with studs as this can lead to injury with younger children

All items of clothing and footwear must be labelled with the pupil's name.

A school kit (shorts, socks and fleece will be provided for school away matches, when required)

### **Non-Compliance**

On rare occasions, for example, if wearing clothing with slogans, especially if they are offensive, the Executive Head Teacher is permitted to ask a pupil to take off the clothing, such as a sweatshirt / jumper. In the event that they cannot take the clothing off, parents/carers will be contacted and they will be asked to bring in more suitable uniform/clothing.

On other occasions, for example, if a child is wearing inappropriate footwear, teaching and/or support staff will inform parents/carers by telephone or in-person. If a child requires an item of uniform for a specific activity and no spare clothing is available in school, for example, PE, parents/carers may be asked to bring the item into school. Individual family circumstances will be considered in the event that a child is not wearing the correct uniform.

Sanctions for breaches of this policy are a last resort: the school endeavours to work with families to resolve breaches of this policy in a timely manner.

### **Jewellery**

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings (no other piercings are permitted)
- A sensible wristwatch (not a smartwatch)

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, for example, PE lessons / swimming lessons. If children cannot remove their own earrings, then this should be done at home on the day of PE/swimming, before they come to school

### **School Bag**

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold children's books and reading record-books comfortably without causing any damage. Large bags / large rucksacks are discouraged for day-to-day lessons due to space on children's pegs / lockers. School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted. The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

## **Water Bottle**

All children should bring a water bottle into school every day: this can be refilled by children whenever necessary during the day. Water bottles must be labelled with the pupil's name.

## **Hair Styles**

Hairstyles should be smart and moderate in style. Hair colour should be natural and not dyed through use of temporary/permanent dye or hair chalks etc. Pupils with what could be deemed extreme hairstyles may be exempt from the rule above on racial or religious grounds. The Executive Head Teacher will take each individual pupil's scenario into consideration.

Long hair should be tied up. This is to avoid health and safety risks and ensure that children's vision is not impeded.

Large, excessive hair accessories should not be worn; however, small hair clips or plain headbands are acceptable. Hair extensions are not permitted.

At the Executive Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover their hair if they have hair loss / illness etc.

## **Make-Up**

False nails/nail extensions and nail varnish are not permitted. Children are not allowed to wear make-up. Pupils wearing make-up are required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it. At the Executive Head Teacher's discretion, there may be exceptions to the above in extreme circumstances e.g. a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

## **Adverse Weather**

### Hot Weather

- Sun hats should be clearly named and brought into school every day
- Sunscreen (children must be able to apply this themselves and it must be labelled and handed to the child's class teacher)
- During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are not required to wear their jumpers/cardigans during heatwaves. If outside during break and lunch times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing/sunscreen are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

### Cold Weather

- During cold weather, pupils are required to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted

- Where possible, pupils not wearing warm clothing are provided with spare clothing if going outside during break and lunch times.

We keep a stock of good quality school uniform items in school which are available on request. We encourage families to recycle uniform items where possible and hand in items that children have grown out of to hand on to others.



Appendix A



