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School Uniform Policy

		Date
Reviewed by:	Richard Graham	12/05/2023
Authorised by:	F&P	Summer 2023
Signed:	<i>Amy Slade</i>	

Change Log	
Summer 2023	New Policy

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

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

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs

Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller

- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

We want all children who come to our school to feel a sense of identity and belonging. We feel our uniform policy reflects the high standards we expect of children and the high standards we achieve across the school. We have a smart but simple uniform that we encourage all pupils to wear. All items of uniform should be clearly named please. Jewellery must not be worn for reasons of safety. If your child has pierced ears only the smallest of studs should be worn to school.

School uniform, including sweatshirts, polo shirts, PE t-shirts and PE-hoodie are sold at cost. Generic like-for-like coloured uniforms would be accepted.

Optional Items: WPS fleece (for outside use only – not to be used as a substitute for a sweatshirt or cardigan), waterproof jacket, gilet, book bag, PE bag.

Spring/Summer - Children are able to wear navy shorts with the school polo shirt, or a blue and white checked/striped summer dress. They are encouraged to bring a sun hat to school in hot weather.

Autumn/Winter – Children should wear the school polo shirt, sweatshirt or cardigan, and navy trousers, skirt or pinafore in the colder months. Children are asked to wear navy socks or tights and sensible shoes (not trainers) in navy or black. Children should come to school appropriately dressed for the weather. For example, when it gets colder, a coat, hat, scarf and gloves may be needed.

PE Kit - For PE children require a white t-shirt and navy shorts/navy tracksuit bottoms and trainers, preferably navy or black. Our new PE hoodie is now available to order, which can only be worn on PE days. Longer hair should be tied back for all children.

4.2 Where to purchase

Uniforms can be purchased from PGM https://pmgschoolwear.co.uk/school/woodstockcofeprimaryschool_woo

Secondhand uniforms can be sourced through the PTA.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact the school office if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the school office if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Senior Leadership Team.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it is appropriate for our school's context. Governors will hold Leaders to account ensuring that:

- The policy is implemented fairly across the school
- The policy takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- The school offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy