



Policy on School Uniform Belfield Community School

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus.

Aims and objectives

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

Jewellery

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, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children either to remove these objects during PE and games, or to cover them with a plaster.

Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Extreme haircuts include, unsuitable markings, Mohicans. It is advisable for long hair to be tied up.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Flip flops are also considered dangerous.

The role of parents and carers

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

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents and carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with

disabilities, then parents and carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

The role of governors

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

It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

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

Monitoring and review

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the governing body will:

- seek the views of parents and carers, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- consider with the headteacher any requests from parents or carers for individual children to have special dispensations;

This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every three years, or earlier if considered necessary.

Signed:

Date: September 2013