



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending Central Integrated Primary School, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

Our school uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security, assisting the school to identify individual pupils in order to maintain good order and spot intruders more easily.

It is the belief of the school that the wearing of a school uniform by pupils, helps promote effective discipline and therefore contributes to more effective learning and teaching.

This policy adheres to the guidelines provided by the Department of Education Northern Ireland. **(Circular 2011/04)**.

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 cost effective; and
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Our School Uniform

Boys & Girls: Navy blue sweatshirt/cardigan (sweatshirt fabric) with school logo.
White polo shirt.

Boys: Grey school trousers.

Girls: Grey school skirt/ grey school pinafore.

White socks or grey tights.

Optional: Girls: Blue/white checked summer dress.

Footwear: It is school policy that children wear sensible low heeled black shoes/ boots. Trainers are not acceptable.

Physical Education (P.E.) Uniform

P.E. is a compulsory part of the statutory curriculum from the age of 4 to 16. Clothing and footwear are important aspects to safety in P.E. For hygiene and health and safety reasons, it is essential therefore, that children are dressed appropriately for any physical activity. Appropriate footwear is essential: trainers or plimsolls should be worn when the children are taking part in physical education.

P1 - P3 Pupils

Children only need change their footwear for P.E. Pupils are asked to wear plimsolls without laces to make changing a more simplistic task.

P4 - P7 Pupils

- Navy shorts
- Pale blue polo shirt with school logo
- Plimsolls or trainers. (For the younger children, plimsolls without laces make changing a more simplistic task).

It is school policy that pupils do not wear football tops for P.E. activities. Pupils participating in any after school football club may wear football kits on this day.

Long Hair

It may be necessary for pupils to tie long hair back during P.E. activities (i.e. swimming and gymnastics) if the length of a child's hair is deemed to be a concern due to health and safety considerations.

The Principal/governors will refer to '***The Association for Physical Education's Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport***' document for guidance in matters that may present themselves in the future and are not included in this policy. The governors will use this guidance to inform policy making or to make changes to policy should the need arise.

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. However, the wearing of studs is also **strongly discouraged** due to health and safety concerns. Please note that it is the policy of the Amphitheatres' swimming instructors that pupils are not permitted to participate in the schools' swimming programme if they are wearing jewellery of any kind.

Please note that watches are not considered items of jewellery and may be worn. However, depending on the activity, it may be appropriate for children to be asked to remove their watches on health and safety grounds.

Make-Up

The governors deem it inappropriate for pupils in our school to wear make-up and therefore it should not be worn.

The Role of Parents/Carers

We ask all parents who send their children to our school for their support of this school uniform policy. We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents/carers are also asked to label all items of clothing clearly with their child's name.

Uniform/PE Uniform Grant

Financial assistance is available for school uniform and P.E uniform through the Education Authority for certain categories of pupils attending primary schools. Further details are available from the school secretary or from the Education Authority. Alternatively, parents/carers can visit the following website for more information: www.eani.org.uk/i-want-to

The Role of Governors

The Board of Governors supports the Principal and Leadership Team in implementing the school's uniform policy considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

Monitoring and Review

The governors are very proud of how the children look with respect to the wearing of our school uniform and thank parents in anticipation of their valued support in this important area of school life.

Parent and pupil views are valued and considered when policy is being reviewed and will be taken into consideration at the next review of this policy, summer term 2022.

The governors, and principal will consider carefully any request for an exception to be made for any individual pupil, on the grounds of religion, race, gender or a medical condition.

Policy agreed: May 2021

Policy review: Summer Term 2024

Uniforms are available from www.squarewearni.co.uk or Cuddys in Carrickfergus