



Parkwood
Primary School

School Uniform Policy 2022

Review: July 2022
Next Review:

Ethos

At Parkwood Primary School, we have an agreed school uniform, which is made clear to families, on our website. We believe that uniform fosters a sense of identity and belonging, promotes the ethos of the school (see Logo section) and sets a tone for the academic and educational expectations of the school to be 'Respectful, safe and ready' to learn.

Policy

At Parkwood we have agreed to follow the non-statutory government guidance and to have a uniform policy. This policy outlines the expectations around appearance and the fair approach we take to managing the sourcing and funding of uniforms.

As set out in correspondence to parents, the expectations around uniform are as follows;

Dear Parents/Carers

All children are expected to wear school uniform as it helps create a sense of identity and belonging to our school. With our behaviour management, we are adopting a 'This is how we do it here,' approach which we are going to extend to school uniform. In September, we request that all children show they are 'ready' to be part of our Parkwood School community by wearing the correct uniform. Our expectations are as follows:

- *A white blouse, shirt or polo shirt*
- *Plain smart skirt or pinafore in grey or black*
- *Trousers or tailored shorts in grey or black*
- *In summer, there is an option to wear a red checked/striped dress*
- *Socks should be white, grey or black in colour*

Jewellery and Hair Accessories:

Physical activity is something the children will participate in on a daily basis therefore we kindly ask that earrings are not worn at all in school for their PE lesson for the children's safety. However, if earrings are worn to school, they must be small studs and must be removed by your child for PE as we cannot put tape over the top. Also, it is essential that long hair, shoulder length or longer, should be tied back using a plain black, hair-colour or school uniform colour. Bows and other accessories are not permitted.

PE Kit

- *Blue or black plain shorts*
- *Plain, round-neck, white t-shirt (see note below)*
- *Trainers for indoor/outdoor games if your child wears school shoes (see note below regarding footwear)*
- *Plain, black jogging bottoms*

- *School sweatshirt/cardigan to be worn into school and during the school day on PE days*
- *Plain round-neck black or blue jumper to be put on in school before winter games*

(hoodies can be worn although hoods and zips present risks in PE therefore our preferred option is a round neck jumper).

PE kit should be worn to school on your child's PE day and Sports Day. Children work in bare feet for all gymnastic activities in school when they are using PE apparatus

Moving forward, we would like to request that all children, including Year 3 to Year 6, now wear a white, round-necked PE t-shirt: they are cheaper and easier to purchase. Of course, if you have already purchased a house-colour t-shirt or have one ready and waiting from an older sibling, then you are more than welcome to send your child wearing the house-coloured t-shirt until it no longer fits them. Just like the jumpers with the old logos, coloured t-shirts will be phased out.

Footwear:

Shoes. Always contentious. We aim to make footwear as straight forward as possible moving forward. Our children are more active in school than they have ever been with the introduction of the daily mile and sensory circuits therefore we are now changing our shoe policy to include wearing trainers that fit specific criteria:

- *Black*
- *Logos are only acceptable if they are completely black.*
- *There should be no additional colour in any form e.g. white stripes or soles.*

**For any child who is unable to tie laces, strongly consider Velcro for safety.*

Smart school shoes are still welcome and perfectly acceptable; however, your child may wish to ensure they have something more appropriate in their bag for active parts of their day although this would mean your child would need two pairs of shoes for school as opposed to one.

Thank you for your support in helping to support our children belong to, and feel proud of, our Parkwood community.

Laws to consider when applying the uniform policy

The Governing Body of Parkwood Primary ensures that in developing a uniform policy, it complies with the Human Rights Act of 1998 and Equality Act of 2010, as well as the Safeguarding and Health and Safety Requirements set out in additional policies.

The Logo

The school logo on uniforms supplied by our local supplier represents, following consultation with parent groups, pupils and staff, the aspirations and history of the school. The tree is developed from the previous junior logo, of a tree, but also incorporates the silhouettes of pupils, as the trunk of the tree. The multicoloured leaves represent diversity and equality and the butterfly represents the readiness for the flight into the next stage of life. We feel the logo is a good summary of the ethos of the school.

Supply

The school suppliers are Rainham Sports, a local firm, which specialises in providing uniform at reasonable cost, to local schools. The uniform is comfortable and practical. However, parents are welcome to source uniforms from any shop, provided the colours match those in our expectations and many choose to do this, as a way of uniform being cost effective. The uniform is suitable for travel to and from school. During hotter months, children can wear shorts or summer dresses. During cold weather, children are encouraged to wear layers. We are mindful of the equality act and open to engaging in conversations around diversity, should they present themselves, as this is an ongoing part of our ethos.

Recycling and Reusing

Our Housekeeping Team keep a large, clean, constant stock of used uniforms in all sizes and these are available to any child who loses an item of uniform and to support our families who require replacements due to circumstances. A 'swap shop' approach is also supported by our Parents Association. We wash and store the uniforms on site. Where families, disadvantaged or not, require a hand with items of uniform, they are supported in a sensible and discrete way. We also feel our approach is kinder to the environment and reduces waste.

PE

Following the Covid 19 pandemic and in order to maximise learning time as well as removing the need to change in front of others in class, the children wear their PE Kits to school on the day they engage in PE lessons or Sports.

Human Rights, Equality and Discrimination Consideration

As a school we support equality and in implementing this policy will consider children with protected characteristics, including sex, religion, belief, race, disability and gender reassignment. We feel uniform helps our pupils feel part of the school identity, but that feeling included in a way which is equal and non-discriminatory is paramount.

Religion and Beliefs

The school will always be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and will act reasonably in accommodating these, without compromising

safety or discipline within the school. We believe any concerns in this regard can be addressed through dialogue and understanding.

Flexibility and Non-Discrimination

Children will not be discriminated against, in terms of uniform expectations, based on cost or availability (eg A Boy and a Girl should have the same expectations in terms of cost and availability). Children with protected characteristics will not be discriminated against. Individual needs and requirements will be addressed on an individual basis, through dialogue, reasonable adjustments and fair decision making, in a discrete and thoughtful way.

Complaints and Disputes over Uniform

Where there is a complaint about the school's approach or policy on school uniform, the complaint procedure, as is published on the website, should be followed. Concerns and complaints can be made with ease and the school will work with parents to find an acceptable outcome. Any concerns over the quality of uniform from the agreed supplier, will result in direct dialogue with the supplier, should these concerns be justified. Uniform is inclusive and where there are concerns around pupils with protected characteristics, these will be considered carefully by the Headteacher and Governing Body in a discrete and fair way.

Non Compliance

Where there are serious breaches of the school policy which are not based on fair or reasonable factors or concerns, the school will follow the behaviour policy in a fair and proportionate way and no pupil will be penalised for decisions beyond their control.

Closing Statement

At Parkwood we feel that the burgundy colours and vibrant logo are part of our school ethos and central to our identity as a 'family' of staff, pupils, parents and Governors, working together as a team.

Mr A Moir
Headteacher
July 2022