



## Windermere Primary School

### Uniform Policy

#### Rationale

Our school expects very high standards from its pupils' behaviour and appearance. We expect children to take pride in their appearance school and to appear smart, clean and appropriately dressed at all times. Children attending the school are required to wear uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours (unless directed otherwise e.g. non-uniform charity days). Windermere's policy is based on the belief that a school uniform:

1. promotes a sense of pride in Windermere, a feeling of community and belonging;
2. is practical and smart;
3. is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
4. makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
5. is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
6. has been designed with health and safety in mind.

#### The School Uniform

For regular school activities, pupils must wear:

#### In the winter (end of September to Easter)

For boys:

In **Key Stage 1** grey school trousers or shorts, white polo shirt with the school logo and a red sweatshirt with the school logo.

In **Key stage 2** grey school trousers or shorts, white shirt with a collar, school tie and a red v-necked jumper with the school logo.

For girls:

In **Key Stage 1** grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers, white polo shirt with the school logo and a red sweatshirt or cardigan with the school logo.

In **Key Stage 2** grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers, white blouse with a collar, school tie and a red v-necked jumper or cardigan with the school logo.

### **In the summer (summer term and September)**

For boys:

**Both KS1 and KS2** may wear grey school trousers or shorts, white polo shirt with the school logo with a red sweatshirt or red v-necked jumper with the school logo.

For girls:

**Both KS1 and KS2** may wear a red gingham pinafore dress or a grey skirt, pinafore dress, culottes or trousers, a white polo shirt with the school logo and a red v-necked jumper, cardigan or sweatshirt with the school logo.

Winter uniform may also be worn if desired.

Windermere School sweatshirts, jumpers, cardigans, polo shirts, T-shirts and ties are available from the School Office. These are sold at almost cost price to enable all children to feel part of the school community and to reduce the financial burden on parents.

**Articles of clothing must be clearly marked with the child's name**, particularly in the case of items, which are frequently removed, such as coats, gloves, sweatshirts, etc.

### **PE Kit**

The school PE kit has been designed to be practical and safe for children to participate in a range of physical activities. All children are required to change for PE lessons.

The PE kit comprises a white T-shirt with the school logo and black unbranded loose PE shorts. For cultural reasons some girls may choose to wear black leggings or tracksuit bottoms instead of shorts. Black plimsolls are used for indoor games, although some activities such as gymnastics will be done in bare feet. Whenever possible, children will have a weekly outdoor games lesson. They may require extra clothing, such as a plain black tracksuit, to keep warm. Trainers should be worn for outdoor games.

Children selected to play or train for the school teams such as football or tag rugby will be loaned school kit, but will be expected to wear appropriate boots and shin pads.

All PE equipment must be named and kept in a named drawstring PE bag.

### **3. Inappropriate clothing**

As stated above, children are expected to uphold the good name of the school by dressing smartly and appropriately. ‘Grunge’ or tatty clothes (eg jeans or jogging pants) are not suitable for a day’s learning in a school, neither are clothes with inappropriate designs or logos (skulls or rebellious street gang-style markings or language). Bare midriffs are also not permitted from either boys or girls. Any of the above are a distraction from the prime reason for the child’s presence in school - to work and learn.

On non-uniform days themes may be selected e.g. ‘spots’, ‘super heroes’. However, clothing, including shoes, should still be modest and practical for an active day of learning.

### **4. Other items**

On health and safety grounds we do not normally allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are watches, studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain (provided these are tucked away inside clothing). We ask the children to **remove jewellery during PE and games**, and studs must be covered with micropore tape or removed. Necklaces of religious significance which cannot be removed must be covered by a polo necked sweater for PE. Participation in PE and games is at the teacher’s discretion in these circumstances. Earrings other than studs are not permitted.

**Long hair** must be tied back securely when doing PE.

Windermere does not permit children to have extreme haircuts (eg Mohican style) or patterns shaved into the hair, as they could serve as a distraction to other children.

**Caps** to shield eyes and forehead from the sun may be worn outdoors only and must be removed before entering the school building. **Caps are not to be worn backwards** and should not, like other clothing, carry inappropriate slogans, logos or designs. School caps are available. **Sunglasses** are not to be worn indoors.

**Mobile phones** are unnecessary in primary schools and should not be brought by children. Should any child bring one to school by mistake or for a specific and necessary reason it must be handed over to the secretary, Head or Deputy Headteacher immediately for safe keeping. It will be returned at the end of the day.

**Hand-held game computers** are not permitted in school. They are liable to get damaged or lost, causing distress to the child. A rare exception to this may be made at the discretion of the Headteacher (eg for Y6s the day after SATs have finished).

**Bags, pencil cases and other items** should not have inappropriate designs or slogans. The school does not permit children to have **long or sharp nails** as they present a danger to others. Nail varnish is unsuitable for a learning environment and is not permitted. The use of **face make-up** for a primary school is inappropriate for primary children and is also not permitted.

## **5. Footwear**

**Footwear for school activities must be sensible, safe and appropriate for a day's education at Windermere.** Both boys and girls must wear black, non-platform shoes in school and parents should provide wellington boots to change into when the weather is snowy so children can go outside at playtime. Ugg boots, croc-style footwear, flip-flops, boots above ankle height, footwear with wedges, platforms, chains or jewellery are either unsafe or inappropriate for a day's schooling and are therefore not permitted. Sensible sandals may be worn in sunny weather at the Headteachers' discretion. These should not be open-toed sandals which do not offer sufficient protection for a child's feet.

## **6. The role of parents**

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

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents 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 are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

## **7. The role of Governors**

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. The school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical. The governing body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

## **8. Staff dress**

Windermere Primary has a friendly and welcoming atmosphere; we also like to create an environment which supports a serious attitude to learning. All staff are important role models for pupils and the manner in which they present themselves will be reflected in the attitude and conduct of the children and the respect given to us and our school by parents, visitors and the community. To this end, all staff must appear neat, clean, and appropriately dressed at all times, for a business-like learning environment. We wish to see the personality of individuals to come through, but staff should still dress in the sensible and appropriate manner befitting a professional.

The school acknowledges the need for variations for special situations, training days, or because the curriculum may necessitate an alternate form of dress, such as PE kit.

However, for other activities and lessons clothing for all must be sensible and non-distracting in length and fit. The following dress is inappropriate for all school employees and students:

- Dresses, shirts, and blouses that are see-through, provocative or revealing
- Clothing that promotes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, the use of controlled substances, depicts violence, is of a sexual or of a disruptive nature
- Jewellery affixed to the tongue, cheek, lip, or eyebrow
- Denim or jeans of any colour
- Trousers or skirts worn excessively low, or skirts which are unduly short
- Bare midriffs

**9. Monitoring and review**

Teachers at the school have the right to counsel children regarding inappropriate dress, and are expected to uphold this policy, whilst using their tact, common sense and judgement. They should take into account the seriousness of the issue, along with the age of the child and whether or not the child has been previously been spoken to for similar or related issues. The Headteacher is responsible for the 'day to day' running, management and control of the school and will therefore make a decision on whether to inform parents of a child's appearance.

Likewise, the Head can make a judgement on whether a member of staff or student is 'suitably' dressed in a manner befitting a professional. He or she will seek a second opinion from other members of the school's Senior Leadership Team and, if necessary, counsel the individual employee regarding suitable, appropriate, acceptable, and professional dress. Reasonable accommodations will be made for those employees who because of a sincerely held religious belief, cultural heritage, or medical reason request a waiver of a particular part of this policy for dress or appearance.

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

**Olwen Jennings, September 2014**

Agreed with staff		Date:
Agreed with governors		Date:
Reviewed		Date:
Reviewed		Date: