

## **HEDDON-ON-THE-WALL ST. ANDREW'S CE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

### **SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY**

**'Every child should feel like they belong – especially at School.  
A School's uniform can bring the School community together  
and create a shared identity.'**

**The Children's Society (2022)**

#### **Rationale**

It is School Policy that all children should wear School uniform when attending School or when participating in a School organised event outside of School hours.

Heddon-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE Primary School is committed to promoting equality and value for money and to ensuring that no child is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, gender / gender identification, economic circumstances or social and cultural background. This policy contains provisions to meet these objectives and has been created with Health and Safety, value for money and practicality at its heart.

We believe that a School uniform:

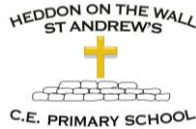
- Promotes a sense of pride in the School;
- Engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- Support positive behaviour and discipline;
- Is practical and smart;
- Identifies the children with the School and encourages identity with the School;
- Makes children feel confident and equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- Prevents children coming to School in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition;
- Is regarded as suitable, appropriate and value for money by parents.

The School will work hard to ensure that there is good condition pre-loved uniform available if required.

#### **The Role of the Academy Committee**

The Academy Committee is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Headteacher and School community, establishing a practical and smart School uniform that accurately reflects the School's ethos and values;



- Liaising with the Headteacher to ensure that this policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity;
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding School uniform and that no person is discriminated against;
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider School community regarding changes to the School's uniform;
- Ensuring that the School's uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical as well as being accessible and affordable.

### **The Role of Parents / Carers**

We ask that all parents who send their children to our School to support the School Uniform Policy.

Heddon-on-the-Wall St. Andrew's CE Primary School welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are strong reasons eg: religious grounds, why parents would like their child to wear clothes that differ from the School uniform, the School will give consideration to such requests.

Similarly, should an item of School uniform prove problematic for a child with disabilities, parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the School.

### **Support with Purchasing Uniform**

The School can provide some assistance for the purchase of School uniform. The Academy Committee have agreed that the criteria for this assistance is that parents must be entitled to free school meals for their child.

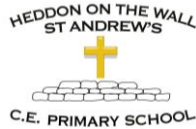
For further information please contact the School Office. All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

### **Pre-Loved Uniform**

Pre-loved uniform can benefit all parents and not just those on lower incomes. Pre-loved uniform is also far better for the planet as providing uniform in this way can extend the life of garments and therefore cut down on waste.

We are able to provide pre-loved uniform throughout the year. A rail containing this uniform is in the entrance to the School. Uniform can be taken from this rail at no cost.

In order to ensure there is a stock of pre-loved uniform the School would ask that if parents have any good quality uniform which they no longer require please could they drop it off at the School Office so it can be given a new lease of life with someone else!



## Uniform Guidance

As a School we are aware of current cost of living crisis and therefore the uniform the School uses is readily available in local Supermarkets and while uniform is required items with logos are available but they are not compulsory.

The only items with logos are:

- Blue Hoodie (Key Stage 2 only);
- Blue Sweatshirt;
- Blue Cardigan.

These items are supplied by Tots to Teens and can be ordered via the School Office. These items can be supplied without a logo at a reduced cost from the supplier if required. Samples are available in the Office so that the correct size can be ordered.

The uniform is as gender neutral as possible and children can choose which items they would like to wear in line with their gender identity or what they are comfortable in.

## School Uniform

Blue sweatshirt or cardigan with or without logo

(For children in Key Stage 2 they can also choose to wear a blue hoodie, again, with or without logo);

Plain white polo shirt, shirt or t-shirt;

Black / grey trousers or shorts (no jeans or leggings);

Black or grey skirt;

Black or grey pinafore dress (blue gingham in Summer);

Black, grey or white socks;

Black or grey tights;

Black shoes (not canvas or trainers)

## PE Kit

There are no items with logos in the School PE kit.

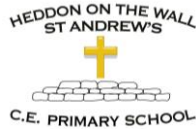
Plain white t-shirt;

Plain dark (black, grey or navy blue) jogging bottoms (not lycra);

Plain dark (black, grey or navy blue) hoodie or sweatshirt (School hoodie may be worn by Key Stage 2 children);

Plain outdoor black trainers.

As the children will come to School wearing their PE kit and will be wearing it for the duration of the day we would be grateful if it is in line with this policy.



Most parents try hard to support our Uniform policy and so it is not fair on the majority if individual children wear anything very different.

## **Footwear**

If there is any area of the uniform we find harder than others, it is the shoes children wear to School. Our older children in particular are keen to wear sports branded, canvas style shoes and this can lead to peer pressure and competitiveness – exactly the things the Uniform Policy is there to avoid. Therefore, we have some very clear and straightforward rules for shoes. Children should wear black shoes to school. Trainers or canvas shoes are not allowed. They should not have any sports or fashion-label branding.

We believe that it is unsafe for children to wear shoes with platform soles, open toed sandals, or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Black boots are acceptable in the winter months.

Our School promotes the use of practical shoes that are well maintained and reflect our commitment to smart appearance and pride in School identity.

In order to access the outdoor area in all weathers as part of OPAL play the children will also need a pair of wellies. These will be stored in School and used as required to enable the children to access the muddy activities and non-hardstanding during wet weather. The School has collected a number of pre-loved wellies for children who need them.

## **Jewellery**

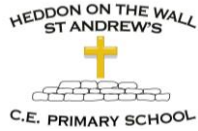
On Health and Safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school, except for watches and small ear-studs.

If you do wish to have your child's ears pierced, please wait until the Summer break so they have time to heal.

Children who, for whatever reason, cannot remove their own earrings will be given micropore tape so that they can cover their earrings themselves before taking part in PE lessons.

In line with the rules at the Swimming Pool, children unable to remove their studs will not be able to participate in swimming lessons. As swimming is an essential life skill and could potentially save their lives it is important that they have their ears pierced in the Summer break so they do not miss their swimming lessons.

Internet enabled watch devices such as smart watches are not permitted.



Hair accessories such as hairbands, slides and bows can be worn but should be small, simple and plain in colour.

### **Make Up**

Make up, including lip stick, nail varnish and mascara is not to be worn for School.

### **Extreme Weather**

Children should dress appropriately for extreme weather conditions. In the Summer it is vital that children have a protective sunhat or cap. Sun cream should be applied to children before they arrive at school on hot summer days.

Boots and sufficiently warm waterproof coats should be provided in extremely wet or snowy weather.