



UNIFORM POLICY

INTRODUCTION

At Dowson Primary Academy, it is the policy that all children wear our agreed uniform every day to school or when participating in school-organised events outside of normal school hours unless otherwise stated in the information given by school to parents.

Uniform fosters a sense of belonging to a school community and helps the children to feel equal to each other. As outlined in the DFE guidance, it contributes to the ethos of a school and setting an appropriate tone. It instils pride and supports positive behaviour and discipline.

Uniform can also be useful to protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way.

A complete list of the items needed for School Uniform, including those for Physical Education, is outlined in this document.

AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

Our aim is that our uniform is in-keeping with our values of pride, respect, aspiration and team work. We ask children to wear their shirts tucked into their skirts or trousers and to take pride in their personal appearance as well as the presentation of their work – ‘Look Smart, Think Smart!’

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school;
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- identifies the children with the school;
- supports our commitment to inclusion, making pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is considered good value for money by most parents;

JEWELLERY, HAIR STYLES AND ACCESSORIES, MAKE-UP AND NAIL VARNISH

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are stud earrings in pierced ears and a wrist watch – both of which must be removed in PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Children are required to be able to remove these items themselves. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings. If children are unable to do this, please ensure they do not wear these items to school on the days they have P.E.

Long hair should be tied up for school for Health and Safety reasons and to reduce any risk of possible spread of headlice. Hair bands, ribbons and bows should be in school colours.



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Head bands should not have things like large flowers attached and bows should be of an appropriate size for school – no larger than approximately 5 inches.

Make up and nail varnish (including acrylic or gel nails) should not be worn to school. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns cut or shaved into their hair or have hair coloured or dyed. In the event of patterns being cut or shaved into hair or extreme colours being put into a pupil's hair, we will contact parents (in line with high school policies) to ask that they rectify this as soon as possible.

FOOTWEAR

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear sensible, plain black school shoes or shoe-boots. Trainers and full boots should not be worn. Where children come into school in large boots for example in the winter, they would be required to change into their school shoes upon arrival to school.

THE ROLE OF PARENTS

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is written on all items.

If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a senior member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item to wear for that day. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will consider such requests sympathetically.

If any parent would like to request a modification to the uniform policy for this or any other reason, they should, in the first instance, contact the Principal.

THE ROLE OF GOVERNORS

The governing body supports the Principal in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning



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

MONITORING AND REVIEW

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its focus group work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the Principal, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform.

The uniform will undergo a full review every 5 years, the next review therefore being January 2022.

SCHOOL UNIFORM LIST

Our school uniform colour is a combination of navy and primrose yellow.

Most items can be bought from High Street shops. All items embroidered with the Dowson Logo can be bought from Kids Stop in Hyde. At the date of this policy review, School is working to source at least one further provider of our uniform.

Foundation Stage Uniform:

- Dowson branded navy jumper or cardigan
- White polo shirt –with the Dowson logo or plain*
- Grey skirt** / pinafore dress** / trousers
- In the summer term, grey shorts or a blue and white checked dress** are an optional alternative
- Plain white, black, grey or navy socks
- Plain grey, black or navy tights
- Sensible black school shoes or shoe-boots***
- Navy Waterproofs and a pair of wellington boots to be kept in school for outdoor learning

* Please note that children in Reception can have the option of the white polo OR a shirt and tie like the rest of school. It is also acceptable that parents change this part way through the year, for example if it is summer term and uniform needs replacing, parents may wish to convert to shirt and tie in preparation for Year 1.

Years 1 – 6 Uniform:

- Dowson branded navy jumper or cardigan



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- Dowson navy and yellow pinstriped tie – clip on or formal. *N.B: We strongly encourage children in Upper School – years 4-6 – to wear formal ties in preparation for high school and as a skill in-keeping with our values of aspiration and pride.*
- White shirt
- Grey skirt** / pinafore dress** / trousers
- In the summer term, grey shorts or a blue and white checked dress** are an optional alternative
- Plain white, black, grey or navy socks
- Plain grey, black or navy tights
- Sensible black school shoes or shoe-boots***

** Please note skirts, dresses and pinafores should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows girls to sit comfortably on the floor.

***Shoes should be flat, black and appropriate for school. Your child should wear shoes which he or she can manage to do up independently and that will remain secure on their feet during any physical activity, for example at playtimes.

P.E. Kit:

- Dowson branded navy t-shirt
- Plain navy shorts
- Trainers – preferably with Velcro fastening unless your child can independently tie their laces
- A plain navy tracksuit with no sports logos may also be bought for outdoor P.E. during the winter. This is advisable only. Please note: a Dowson tracksuit consisting of jogging bottoms and a hooded sweatshirt with the school logo can be purchased from our supplier.

Children in Reception change for P.E in the summer term only so a P.E. kit is not needed until this time.

Children need a change of clothes and footwear for P.E. (for health and hygiene reasons) and we advise a drawstring bag in which to keep the kit at school as this takes up the least space in the cloakrooms and can be left for the duration of the term and sent home each holiday to be washed. A PE kit consisting of a Dowson navy t-shirt and navy shorts in a drawstring bag with the logo may be bought as a package deal from the supplier.

Other available items:

- Reversible waterproof coat with the school logo which are suitable for boys and girls
- Dowson branded Fleece - Please note, this may not be used as a replacement to the school jumper or cardigan.
- Dowson branded book bag



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All school uniform and P.E. kit, including shoes, MUST be named. Children – and adults - can become upset as a result of lost clothing; please help us by naming everything.

NON-COMPLIANCE

We adhere closely to all the measures in the policy. As well as doing so in order to meet the aims and objectives set out above, we do it to prepare children well for high school where the same rules apply and strict measures are in place for compliance.

At Dowson, where the uniform policy is not adhered to, the following measures will be put into place:

1. On the first occasion, a spare item of uniform will be provided by school wherever possible. A verbal reminder to the child or parent may be given regarding an aspect of the policy where necessary.
2. On the second occasion, a reminder letter will be sent home, outlining the area of the policy that has not been met. See Appendix A for a copy of this letter.
3. On the third occasion, a member of Senior Leadership will contact the parents personally.

If necessary, school will form a uniform agreement with parents to ensure that the standards of uniform we expect can be reached and maintained. We endeavour to support any families who may be finding this difficult for whatever reason in any way we can.