

Dymchurch Primary School



School Uniform Policy

School Uniform Policy – including Transitional Arrangements for 2013-14 and Staff Dress Code

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Governing Body

Dymchurch Primary School



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Aims and Expectations

1.1. Our school expects very high standards from its pupils' behaviour and appearance. We expect children to take pride in their appearance in a fine 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). Dymchurch's policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

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

2. The Schools Uniform

2.1. For regular school activities, pupils must wear:

- ✓ **For Boys:** Grey trousers (or grey shorts in summer)
- ✓ **For Girls:** Grey trousers, **or** a grey pinafore dress **or** a grey skirt **or** grey culottes)
- ✓ Dymchurch School Logo V-neck Sweatshirt or School cardigan
- ✓ **KS1:** Plain White Polo Shirt or White School Logo Polo Shirt
- ✓ **KS2:** White school collared shirt (short sleeves will be permitted in summer)
- ✓ **KS2:** House Tie – provided by school
- ✓ Blue and white 'gingham' pattern dress for girls (Summer Term and Autumn Term 1)
- ✓ Plain white or plain grey socks with shoes or sandals
- ✓ If tights are worn they must be plain, not patterned – grey. Leggings are not permitted.

2.2. **Footwear for school activities must be sensible, safe and appropriate for a day's education at Dymchurch** – Both boys and girls must wear black, non-platform shoes must be worn in school and parents should provide wellington boots to change into when the weather is snowy so children can go outside at playtime. Plain black, unbranded, leather or vinyl top trainers are acceptable. Sensible sandals can be worn in sunny weather. Ugg style 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.

If pupils do not come to school in the footwear in line with this policy, they will be asked to wear their plain black P.E. plimsolls around the school building. And parents will be notified.

2.3. School 'Dymchurch Blue' Sweatshirts, Polo shirts and T-shirts are available from the School Office.

2.4. We expect children to tuck their shirts in when they are in school. We recognise that playtimes these become untucked for freedom of movement but children should tuck shirts in again when going into the building.



Articles of clothing must be marked with the name of the owner, and this is doubly important in the case of items, which are frequently removed, such as coats, gloves, sweatshirts, etc.

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3. School P.E. Kit

3.1. All children are also required to change for P.E. lessons, and are required to have a t-shirt and loose PE shorts. Plimsolls are also required, though children may from time to time work in bare feet in the hall. Whenever possible, children will have a weekly outdoor games lesson, and may, at certain times of the year, need extra clothing, such as a sweater, or track-suit bottoms which are unbranded and navy or black in colour.

- 3.2. ✓ White turtle-neck T-Shirt
✓ Navy blue shorts
✓ Black plimsolls
✓ Tracksuits are needed for outdoor P.E. only during the winter months.

NB. Foundation children will only require black plimsolls for the first two terms. After Christmas they will need t-shirt and shorts also as above.

3.3. All P.E. equipment must be named and brought in a clearly named P.E. bag.

Swimming

3.4. Dymchurch children may be offered swimming lessons during the year, during school time. Children should wear suitable swimwear (goggles are permitted) and bring a named towel for this activity. (NB. There may be a charge for this activity – with cost and times notified to parents as appropriate)

4. Inappropriate Clothing

- 4.1. As stated above, children are expected to uphold the good name of the school by dressing smartly and appropriately.
- 4.2. Tatty clothes or jeans 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).

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5. Other items

- 5.1. 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 this includes earrings. **Long hair** must be tied back securely when doing PE. We advise against extreme hair styles as these can cause undue attention to children or distractions for others.
- 5.2. **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. **Sunglasses** are not to be worn indoors.
- 5.3. **Mobile phones** are unnecessary in primary schools and should not be brought by children unless a child walks to and from school alone. (This would only be relevant to the older children in school). 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. (If phones are left in bags or coats, the school cannot be held responsible for loss or damage)
- 5.4. **Hand-held game computers** are not permitted in school under normal circumstances. 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 (e.g. for Y6s the day after SATs have finished).
- 5.5. 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 strongly discouraged. The use of **face make-up** for a primary school is equally inappropriate for primary children and is prohibited.

Occasionally the school holds “tag” or charity days where children are not required to wear their normal uniform. The school will always notify parents in advance when this is taking place, and if appropriate the type/colour of clothing to be worn in support the day.

6. The Role of Parents and Carers

- 6.1. 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 is having difficulty in providing the appropriate uniform they should contact the school office or Family Liaison Officer (FLO) for further advice and support.
- 6.2. 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 is committed to treating all pupils equally.

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

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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

- 8.1. Dymchurch Primary School likes 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 and have formal clothing available should an occasion arise (i.e tie for a parent consultation). (Midday supervisors and the caretaker, should wear clothing and PPE appropriate to their role) We wish to see the personality of individuals to come through, but staff should therefore dress in the sensible, smart and modest appropriate manner befitting a professional.
- 8.2. 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 wear. 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 have see-through elements, or are 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

- 9.1. 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 spoken to for similar or related issues. The Headteacher is, in law, 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.

Transitional Arrangements for 2013-14

- 9.2. As from September 2013 Dymchurch Primary School has introduced a new school uniform. However we recognise that a period of transition is necessary. Therefore the existing uniform and the new uniform will run alongside each other for the academic year 13-14 and it is expected that in September 2014 all children will be in the new uniform as listed above in the Uniform section.
- 9.3. In light of the transitional period this policy will be reviewed in July 2014.

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