



Higher Failsworth Primary School

'Working together for an Education for Life'

Pupil Dress Code Policy

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Staff Member:	Headteacher
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Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear the school dress code when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a list of the items needed for school dress code in the office and reminders are given to parents and children about our dress code on a regular basis. This policy has been reviewed to take account of the DFE Guidance on School Uniform Published in April 2024.

The Department for Education (DfE) believes that school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting the appropriate tone. The department strongly encourages schools to have a dress code as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage identify with, and support for, school ethos; ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school dress is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes/footwear that could be distracting in class or on the playground;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Our School code of dress consists of:

Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan (plain or with school logo)
Pale blue polo t-shirt or shirt (plain or with school logo)
Grey skirt or trousers (no jeans)
Grey shorts (summer)
Blue/white gingham dress (summer)
Grey, blue or white hair accessories
Grey, blue or white plain tights
Grey, blue or white plain socks
All black shoes/trainers with strap, buckles or lace ups (No heels/ platforms)

All clothing should be clearly named. Sweatshirts, polo shirts and items with the school logo are available to order through school. Book bags and PE kit bags are also available at the school office.

Our school PE kit is part of the dress code and consists of:

Indoor/outdoor
Red t-shirt (plain or with school logo)
Red jumper (plain or school hoody)
Black shorts or leggings
Plain black tracksuit bottoms or joggers
Plimsolls/Pumps (slip-on, laced or velcro)
Trainers (outside)
NO earrings, watches or jewellery

PE kits should be worn to school on the day a child participates in PE lessons. This will be twice a week in most year groups. Class teachers will tell parents/carers at the start of each half term when their PE lesson is so the children know to wear PE kit on those days.

KS2 children also require a swimming kit. Girls need a suitable one-piece costume and boys should have proper swimming shorts that are not long and baggy. Further information regarding swimming is sent out to KS2 children prior to them starting swimming.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears (one in each ear in the lower part of the ear), watches that cannot be classed as toys and small objects of religious significance. We ask the children to remove these items during PE and swimming to prevent them from causing injury. If children are unable to remove items independently then they should not be worn on PE days. If any child has their ears pierced during term time we ask them to remove the earrings as soon as they can. However please note that the child may not be able to join in with certain activities due to health and safety reasons, a risk assessment will be carried out each time this occurs. We do not allow any other piercings including the belly button, nose or top part of the ear.

Hair and makeup

Children should not come to school with extreme haircuts or coloured hair. Natural hair colour should be adhered to. If any child wears a weave or has their hair braided we ask that beads are not worn for health and safety reasons. Hair bands, clips etc. should be discreet designs in colours and try to be compatible with school colours and only used in order to keep hair in place. Some hair ornaments may need to be removed for PE on the grounds of health and safety. Long hair should be tied back for PE and swimming. No make-up or nail varnish should be worn during the school day. Similarly, temporary transfers or fake 'tattoos' are not appropriate and we ask that they be removed as soon as possible. False or acrylic nails are not permitted.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We do not allow children to wear shoes with

platforms or heels in our school. We also believe that coloured footwear is inappropriate and not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school dress code. We require all children to wear black shoes/trainers as stated in the dress code list.

It is school policy for pupils to change into school black pumps if they do not come to school in appropriate footwear, and to wear their PE trainers on the playground.

Winter boots/ wellington boots may be worn to and from school during bad weather but shoes should be brought to school and worn during the school day. Flat sandals that provide firm support may be worn in summer but they should have a heel strap.

Seasonal safety

All children require a coat in school when the weather is changeable, cold or wet. On hot sunny days children should be protected from the sun when outdoors by:

- wearing a hat or cap
- wearing an appropriate SPF sunscreen that has been applied at home, or that they have brought to school to apply themselves (adults in school are not permitted to apply sun-screen).

We recommend that children do not bring sunglasses to school as they can get lost or broken and can cause injuries on the playground. However, if children need to wear sunglasses e.g. for hay fever, then please check they have a CE mark which conforms to British Standard BS EN 18361977 and are of a design/colour compatible with school colours.

The role of the school

Items bearing the school logo are available for purchase through school. The school will make every effort to ensure these items are of reasonable quality and an affordable price. There will be consultation with parents in the event of any change in supplier of uniform items.

The school accepts no liability for loss or damage to items of school dress, or personal items worn or brought into school.

If a child comes to school not wearing the school dress code on a particular day there may be a good reason and a short explanation from the parent/ carer at the start of the day would be sufficient. If a child comes to school not wearing code of dress and no reason is given, then in the first instance, a member of staff would have a discrete discussion with the child to give them chance to explain and to remind them of school policy (for example, a child might be asked to change into PE pumps if their footwear is unsuitable for wear in school or a child wearing a hoodie to school would be asked to remove it and hang it on their coat peg). In the event of persistent or flagrant disregard for school policy, parents will be contacted and school may provide clean spare clothing for children to wear. There will be an opportunity for parents to make representation to the governing body.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school dress code policy including footwear and PE kit. This agreement is entered into as part of the signing up to send children to our school.

We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for learning. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct clothing, including appropriate footwear, PE kit (indoor and outdoor) and that it is clean and in good repair.

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 code of dress, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Any parent/carer has the right to apply for a variation of this policy to meet the needs of any individual to accommodate their religion or belief; they should make representation to the Governing Body.

The role of Governors

The governing body supports the Head teacher in implementing the school dress code policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school dress code meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school dress code policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school dress code policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

For continual and persistent disregard for the school dress code that is not resolved at an informal level, parents/ carers will be invited to meet with the governing body.

Monitoring and review

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school dress code policy through;

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that the majority agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the Head teacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school dress code;
- requiring the Head teacher to report to the governors on the way the school dress code policy is implemented. The governing body will review this policy every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.