

# Windsor Park CE Middle School

*Learning for Life* "Teach me good judgement and knowledge" *Psalm 119:66* 

# **School Uniform Policy**

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RESPECT 'clothe yourself with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience' RESILIENCE 'I can do anything through Christ who strengthens me'

RESPONSIBILITY ' for God gave us a spirit not a fear, but a power and love and self-control'

**OUR VISION** 

# *Learning for Life* "Teach me good judgement and knowledge" *Psalm 119:66*

As an inclusive Church of England school, who aim to provide transformational experiences for all God's children within our care, the teachings of Jesus are at the heart of all we do. Whilst striving for excellence, we celebrate achievement in all its forms encouraging pupils and staff to live life in all its glory and flourish.

#### **OUR MISSION**

1. Encourage all children irrespective of background or ability to fulfil their God-given potential and flourish. Our broad and balanced curriculum takes a holistic approach to education ensuring that spirituality, emotional intelligence, physical development, academic excellence and social skills are developed creatively across a range of school subjects.

2. Deliver a safe space for children to develop philosophical and theological thinking through Religious Education as a core subject; delivering inspirational lessons which bestow upon pupils the skills to understand Christianity as a living and diverse faith, whilst teaching a knowledge and respect of other faiths and world views.

3. Value education is its widest sense; building on our history and Christian foundations, making the most of today in order that we can make even more of tomorrow and the days, weeks, months and years that lie ahead. This is Learning for Life: 'teach me good judgement and knowledge' Psalm 119:66

4. Foster respect for all God's children; embracing difference and diversity and teaching all to live well together in an inclusive, welcoming community, supporting each other to remove or cross barriers and live with dignity and respect.

5. Reinforce the Christian values and beliefs that will make our children good people: kind, honest, forgiving and courageous.

6. Care deeply about our pupils' and staff wellbeing and mental health, appreciating that it is the genuine quality of relationships that matter. We strive to support each other to flourish, achieving happiness and fulfilment.

7. Encourage our pupils to approach local and global communities with a deep sense of integrity, justice, responsibility and courageous advocacy; identifying and challenging injustice.

8. Collaborate primarily with St Mary the Virgin church to share the teachings of Jesus through inspirational collective worship. Develop, deliver and evaluate opportunities for pupils and adults to express spirituality through varied worship experiences.

9. Encourage and nurture exploration, creativity and compassion with unlimited and unbounded energy. At Windsor Park learning is not a spectator sport.

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# 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers.
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform.

# 2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils.
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back).
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols.
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the School Office on 01889 563365, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

# 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost.
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible by only asking that the blazer, worn over the shirt or jumper, features the school logo.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be sewn on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

# 4. Expectations for school uniform

### 4.1 Our school's uniform

Our uniform is as follows:

- Blazer (with logo, can be sewn on)
- Mid grey trousers (no outside pockets, not leggings, bootleg or cords)
- Mid grey skirt / dress / culottes
- Mid grey tailored short
- White shirt
- School tie (available from the school office and paid for using ParentPay)
- Plain grey v-neck jumper or cardigan
- Plain black shoes (not boots i.e. not over the ankle and not canvas)
- Grey/white/black socks or grey/black tights

#### **PE Uniform**

- Windsor Park t-shirt
- Plain black shorts
- Plain white socks, ankle or trainer type
- Trainers, no high tops or pumps
- Football/hockey socks, black
- Football boots
- Shin pads
- Mouth guard (available from the school office and paid for using ParentPay)

#### Optional for adverse weather

- Plain black or white base layers can be worn during the colder months
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms

# Swimming (Key Stage 2 Only)

- Swimming trunks or plain one-piece swimming costume
- Swimming cap for long hair
- Towel

#### DT/Art

• Apron (available from the school office and paid for using ParentPay)

#### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Parents and carers can obtain the uniform from *Schools in Uniform, 41 Weston Road, Meir, ST3 6AB* or on their website *www.schoolsinuniform.co.uk.* However, blazers can be obtained from other high street shops and the Windsor Park logo is available from our school office for £3.00. This can then be sewn on.

We also have a selection of second-hand uniform available from our school office.

#### 5. Expectations for our school community

#### 5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises.
- Travelling to and from school.
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required).

# 5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean.
- Clearly labelled with the child's name.
- In good condition.

Pupils or parents/carers are also expected to contact the School office on 01889 563365 if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics.
- The cost of the uniform.

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally.
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy.

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

#### 5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with communication with the Head of House if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the pastoral team.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

# 5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context.
- Is implemented fairly across the school.
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils.
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

# 6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed yearly. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.