

The Cope Primary School



Uniform Policy

Date	Policy Reviewed	Policy Amended	Added to Website
March 2019	March 2023	August '23	

The Cope Primary School Uniform Policy

It is our policy that all children wear school uniform when attending The Cope Primary School, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

Our school uniform is an important aspect of school life, which we hope all children will respect and wear with pride. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life. It promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school, and it enhances security, assisting the school to identify individual pupils in order to maintain good order and spot intruders more easily.

Importance of School Uniform

At The Cope we realise that school uniform can play a valuable role in the life of a school by:

- Setting an appropriate tone
- Instilling pride
- Supporting positive behaviour and discipline
- Encouraging identity with, and support for, the 'School Ethos'
- Ensuring pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome
- Protecting children and parents from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- Nurturing cohesion and promoting good relations between different groups of pupils.

We believe that school uniform supports effective teaching and learning.

Aims and Objectives

Our policy for school uniform 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
- 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 wear for school and is considered by parents as good value for money
- Is designed with health and safety in mind

We ask all parents who send their children to our school for their support of this school uniform policy. We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, that it is clean and in good repair and that each item is clearly labelled with the child's name. School cannot take responsibility for lost items of school uniform.

We acknowledge that there may be individuals who may have specific reasons for variations on the uniform and these should be discussed with the principal Mrs Ellen Archer, to ensure that there is appropriate knowledge as to why your child is unable to comply with school policy.

Day-to-Day School Uniform

We expect, and it is normal practice, for pupils to wear the following as their uniform:

<u>GIRLS</u>	<u>BOYS</u>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black skirt/ pinafore/ black trousers - Red school sweatshirt/ cardigan (embroidered with school badge) - White socks/ red tights - Black school shoes - White Shirt and school tie/ white polo shirt - Waterproof jacket/coat with hood (school coats and P7 hoodies are available but not compulsory) <p>In warmer weather Girls can wear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A red and white checked summer dress or a polo shirt with their black skirt. (Strictly no skorts) - Plain black or white trainers (as far as possible) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black trousers - Red school sweatshirt (embroidered with school badge) - Black socks - Black school shoes - White Shirt and school tie/ white polo shirt - Waterproof jacket/coat with hood (school coats and P7 hoodies are available but not compulsory) <p>In warmer weather Boys can wear</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Black trouser shorts (not sport shorts) with their white polo shirt - Plain black or white trainers (as far as possible)

Please note Velcro trainers and shoes are preferable if pupils are unable to tie laces.

We will of course be flexible on our uniform policy, eg., during periods of extreme weather.

Uniform can be purchased at Ivan Jameson, Portadown.

P7 hoodies are available to purchase through the school.

FULL UNIFORM IS REQUIRED FOR ALL SPECIAL EVENTS. (This includes white shirt, school tie, red sweatshirt/cardigan, black skirt or trousers, and black school shoes).

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in school. The exception to this rule is stud earrings in pierced ears. However, the wearing of studs is also strongly discouraged due to health and safety concerns.

Please note that watches are not considered items of jewellery and may be worn. However, depending on the activity, it may be appropriate for children to be asked to remove their watches on health and safety grounds. 'Smart' watches which connect to a phone or on which you can access the internet, or a camera cannot be worn by any child. This is for Child Protection reasons.

There are occasions when nail varnish is worn due to it being applied in school on a fun basis. However, as far as possible beyond these situations we would greatly appreciate no nail varnish to be worn.

P.E. Uniform

Physical Education (P.E.) Uniform

P.E. is a compulsory part of the statutory curriculum from the age of 4 to 16. Clothing and footwear are important aspects to safety in P.E. For hygiene and health and safety reasons, it is essential therefore, that children are dressed appropriately for any physical activity. Appropriate footwear is essential: trainers or plimsolls should be worn when the children are taking part in physical education.

P1 - P3 Pupils

Children only need change their footwear for P.E. Pupils are asked to wear plimsolls without laces to make changing a more simplistic task.

P4 - P7 Pupils

- Black shorts (or skirt for girls)
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms
- White polo shirt
- Plimsolls or trainers (plain black or white as far as possible). (Both types of shoes are required as plimsolls are not suitable for outdoor PE)

Pupils will be clearly informed of the timetable for P.E. As we have no changing facilities, we therefore recommend that pupils come to school wearing black track bottoms, polo shirt and sweatshirt on P.E. days.

Long hair must be tied back during P.E. Earrings and watches must be removed whilst taking part in P.E.

Financial Assistance

We would like to make you aware that financial assistance is available in certain circumstances by completing an application form. Further details are available from the school secretary or parents/carers can visit the following website for more information: <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>. All requests are confidential.

In June each year, parents are asked to donate pre-loved items of school uniform which are still in good condition. These will then be given to local churches and/or charities for their Uniform Clothing Banks. Parents will be made aware in June of each year how they can make use of this service.

Monitoring and Review

The governors are very proud of how the children look with respect to the wearing of our school uniform and thank parents in anticipation of their valued support in this important area of school life.

Parent and pupil views are valued and considered when the policy is being reviewed and will be taken into consideration at the next review of this policy.

The governors, and principal will consider carefully any request for an exception to be made for any individual pupil, on the grounds of religion, race, gender or a medical condition.

THE COPE PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY	
POLICY DATE:	March 2023
PRINCIPAL'S SIGNATURE:	
CHAIRPERSON, Board of Governors, SIGNATURE:	
REVIEW DATE:	March 2026