

Compassion

Courage

Cooperation



# Wittersham CEP School Uniform Policy

*At Wittersham Church of England Primary School we believe that every child must be nurtured, valued and empowered to have the highest aspirations for their future and to reach their full potential through the provision of a stimulating, innovative and creative curriculum. We want our learning community to achieve high standards by equipping them with the skills to succeed and inspiring a lifelong love of learning.*

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### Revision History

| Version | Date           | By         | Description   |
|---------|----------------|------------|---|
| V01     | August 2022    | G. Hawkins | New Policy - change in PE shorts from white to black. Update to highlight how uniform is accessible to all (2022 guidance). |
| V02     | September 2024 | S Coulson  | Reviewed and Updated  |
|         |                |            |   |

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## Introduction

At Wittersham CEP School we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school organised events outside normal school hours. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is included in this policy.

## Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that we are pleased to wear a uniform that:

- Promotes a sense of pride in our school
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- Identifies pupils with the school
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion
- Prevents pupils from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class
- Is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind
- Is considered to be good value for money

## 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.

As a school, we 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
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability

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- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for inter school competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

### **Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish**

For many reasons, including safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears. Children are required to remove any items during P.E. lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain.

Hair bands should not have large flowers or other decorations attached.

Make up and nail varnish 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 into their hair or have hair coloured or dyed.

### **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 plain black shoes without logos as stated in the uniform list. If boots are worn these should also be plain black.

### **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, that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is visibly labelled 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.

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Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our lost property to wear for that day if possible. 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 Uniform Policy will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request an exception to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the headteacher.

### **The Role of Governors**









The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher 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 Monitoring and Review opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

### **School Uniform List**

Jumpers, book bags and PE kits can all be purchased on-line from [price-buckland.co.uk](http://price-buckland.co.uk).

There is no requirement for items of clothing to have the school logo – uniform can be purchased at major supermarkets as well as Next, Marks and Spencer, Matalan and John Lewis.

The school colours are as follows:

|  |   |
|--|---|
|  Shirt / Blouse             | White                                     |
|  Sweatshirt/Jumper/Cardigan | Dark Green                                |
|  T Shirt / Polo Shirt       | White                                     |
|  Skirt/Pinafore/Trousers    | Grey                                      |
|  Summer Dress               | Green and white checks or stripes         |
|  Shorts                     | Grey                                      |
|  Socks/Tights               | Grey, Black or White                      |
|  Shoes                      | Black sensible school shoes (No Trainers) |

Please be aware that you need to make sure that every item of clothing is labelled. You will also need to ensure that, unless your child can tie their laces independently, they will need to wear shoes with either buckles or Velcro. Earrings, if worn, must be a plain stud.

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For our younger years, it is also advisable that you provide you child with a clearly labelled set of spare school clothes.

We do go outside in all weathers and a sunhat, wellies, gloves, scarves and woolly hats are also necessary.

Our school PE kit is:

- ✚ A yellow polo shirt or t-shirt (polo shirts are acceptable too).
- ✚ Black shorts or skorts
- ✚ Plimsolls or trainers (preferably with a Velcro fastening) for the younger children in Windmills or Smugglers

During the colder months, children should also wear:

- ✚ Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- ✚ A black zip up track suit top, hoodie or sweat-shirt.

The track suits must be plain black and should not have any logos, slogans or pictures on them.

These items are readily available at the major supermarkets as well as Next, Marks and Spencer, Matalan and John Lewis.

Please note skirts should be an appropriate length and of a style which allows sitting comfortably on the floor. When shorts are worn, they should also be of an appropriate length. We ask children to wear their shirts tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take pride in their personal appearance. For health and safety reasons children are not permitted to wear earrings for PE. Your child's teacher will advise you when PE lessons take place so that earrings can be removed.

Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings.

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