



Peel Park Primary School

Alice Street, Accrington, Lancashire, BB5 6QR

Ofsted
Outstanding
2011|2012



School



Uniform policy



May 2017



Peel Park Primary School Uniform Policy

Principles

The school believes that the appearance of the members of their community is important. Children come to school not merely for academic purposes but also to absorb an ethos and culture which is reflected in the general behaviour and high expectations. We believe that a school uniform can improve learning by reducing distraction, sharpening focus on schoolwork and making the classroom a more serious environment, allowing children to perform better academically. School uniform means that pupils don't have to worry about peer pressure when it comes to their clothes. There is no competition about being dressed in the latest trend, which would put a great deal of financial pressure on pupils and parents.

There are many benefits to having a Uniform Policy:

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

1. promotes a sense of pride and belonging in and to the school;
2. engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
3. is practical and smart; – by having a smart appearance within school, it is one factor among many which assists in instilling an awareness of, and appreciation for high standards generally;
4. identifies the children with the school;
5. is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
6. makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance eradicating social and economic differences between children;
7. is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
8. has been designed with health and safety in mind. Pupils can be easily identified as belonging to Peel Park when on school trips or out in the community. Certain items of clothing pose health and safety risks,



most particularly in practical lessons such as PE, Technology and Science but also generally around the school. A clear uniform policy takes account of such issues and ensures that pupils are not put at risk unnecessarily by wearing inappropriate dress;

9. expectations on dress codes are widespread in today's society with many employers adopting a uniform approach to dress in the workplace. Wearing a uniform helps to prepare children for these future expectations.

Aims

1. To ensure that all members of the community (parents, staff and children) clearly understand the uniform requirements.
2. To ensure that children observe the uniform requirements by consistent and regular monitoring by all staff.
3. To liaise with parents on infringements of uniform requirements, seeking their co-operation.
4. To impose appropriate sanctions for repeated infringements of uniform regulations, in the first instance by the class teacher, then by the Team leader and Deputy headteacher and ultimately to the headteacher.
5. To ensure that any family in financial difficulty should be made aware of the support available through the school for the provision of uniform and to guarantee that any such help is offered discreetly and sensitively.

Practice

- Uniform requirements are clearly described in all information to prospective parents, at induction and open evenings, on the website and in the school prospectus. Parents are reminded of the expected standards through the Headteacher's newsletter to parents. Children are reminded verbally by class teachers at regular intervals and there



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is a copy of the uniform requirements on the school website. Parents are also asked to sign up to the home school agreement which specifically mentions wearing school uniform.

- Teachers monitor the appearance of their classes on an ongoing basis, making note of recurrent offenders and taking appropriate action by informing parents or asking the child to rectify the situation, if old enough to take responsibility.
- The team leaders handle the matter sensitively, establishing firstly whether there are specific circumstances which require leniency, and then takes such action as contacting parents by imposing sanctions. The support and co-operation of parents is sought and strategies suggested, to deal with difficult cases.
- If the correct items of uniform are available in school, children will be asked to wear that item until the school uniform is provided e.g wearing a school sweater or wearing black pumps if school shoes are not provided.
- All teaching staff share the responsibility for monitoring and maintaining the uniform regulations in and around the school site.
- Any parent who is in financial difficulty should contact the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Pastoral manager or Assistant Headteacher to discuss, in confidence, the possibility of school assistance in the purchase of certain uniform items. The basic criterion for assistance is eligibility for free school meals.
- For parents suffering hardship, the school collects uniform that has been used but in good condition and periodically this is out for parents to take by offering a donation to school fund.
- Parents who choose to send their children to the school knowing the requirements regarding uniform, are expected to conform to these requirements unless there are extenuating circumstances e.g. specific physical disability. These should be discussed with the school beforehand.



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Sanctions

The school policy makes it clear why school uniform is important and what is expected. If there is no communication about any underlying, acceptable reasons, we may ask parents to take their child home and return when in school uniform. The same action may apply if a child comes to school with an extreme hair style. *This is not an exclusion but an authorised absence. However, if the pupil continues to breach uniform rules in such a way as to be sent home to avoid school, or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the pupil's absence may be counted as an unauthorised absence.*

Jewellery

- On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exception to this rule are studs ear-rings in pierced ears. We ask that children either remove these or cover them during PE and games.

Hair

- The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children i.e. are extreme or involve fashionable shaving/tram lines/Mohican style
- All children, girls and boys, are requested to tie hair up where it is long enough to do so for PE.

Footwear

- The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. School shoes must be plain and black with no flashes or coloured sections. If a child comes to school in trainers or other inappropriate footwear they will be asked to wear black pumps until they purchase black school shoes.

The role of parents



- We ask all parents who send their children to our school for their support of 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. This is part of our home school agreement that all parents sign up to when their child starts school at Peel Park.
- 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 role of governors

- The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy.
- Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.