

**UNIFORM POLICY**

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| **Policy Version**  |
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| 1.7.13  | 1.0  | Created as AHPS joined The Dunham Trust – circulated and approved by LGB and SLT  | V. Mohammed |
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This policy will be reviewed every 12 months in light of local and Government legislation.

The Dunham Trust believes it makes a significant contribution in transforming children's life chances. Our aim and commitment is to transform schools into sustainable learning academy communities.

*“We aim to ensure that, for everyone involved, excellence and equity become and remain a reality”*

*“They come this way only once so we should litter their pathways with quality experiences”*

We believe that we are able to help our academies and their young people to aspire to and achieve success. To do this, we are committed to ensuring that every child and young person has a pathway to succeed that:

* gives the best possible start in life
* equips with creativity, spirit and confidence
* enables individuals to appreciate life and equip for further learning
* supports the child in becoming a responsible citizen
* ensures continued success in his/her future and contributes to the local community

Our aims for ‘Improvement’ are designed to ensure all academies are consistently benchmarked against key improvement priorities. This framework will ensure effective progress across the Trust, whilst at the same time, leaving space for autonomy at the school level. It will:

* focus efforts on what really matters, i.e. our vision, principles and commitment to the children, young people, families and communities that we serve.
* provide a flexible approach to improvement that meets the needs of each Academy. This will involve a commitment to immediate improvement in each individual context, professional development and a collaborative approach that engages with improvement projects designed to build capacity, an approach that is responsive, reflective and sustainable.
* focus on outcomes, understanding that these are not negotiable. We are committed to a no-excuses culture. In achieving these outcomes, all will focus on individual responsibility and collective accountability for success

The Trust has a responsibility to ensure the success of each academy by allowing every pupil to maximise his/her potential. As an academy sponsor there will be an expectation for joint working across individual academies. The Trust is committed to high quality academy improvement activity, networking and development and research. Equally, the promotion of sport, outdoor education and the creative arts will be important in the development of pupil self-esteem and building learning skills.

**Introduction**

The purpose of this guidance is to support the development of a school uniform policy, which is sensitive to the needs of children, parents and the school, reflecting too cultural dress protocols within the community. The school will act fairly and reasonably, bearing in mind our duties under the Human Rights Act 1998, the Equality Act 2010 and anti-discrimination legislation.

It is Acre Hall Primary School policy that all pupils **must** wear their full uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. The school will provide a complete list of items needed in the school prospectus, on the school website, at parents’ information evenings and in letters to parents.

**Aims**

Our policy on uniform is based on the principles that the school uniform:

* Promotes a sense of pride in the school, in line with our ethos, values and beliefs
* Engenders a sense of ‘community’ and ‘belonging’ to the school
* Supports positive behaviour and discipline
* Is practical, comfortable and smart
* Identifies pupils with the school and encourages identification with the school
* Prevents pupils from coming to school in fashion or ‘designer’ label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition
* Makes pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and helps nurture cohesion between different groups of pupils
* Is regarded as suitable for school and value for money by most parents
* Promotes the school’s care for the health and safety of its children

**Expectations**

We expect all pupils to comply with this uniform policy, which will be monitored. Any pupil who falls short of these requirements will be advised of this fact by their class teacher and given the opportunity to improve. Continued failure to comply will be brought to the attention of the Deputy Head of School. Repeated failure to comply will be referred to the Head of School.

**The Role of Parents/Carers**

We ask all parents/carers who send their children to Acre Hall Primary School to support our uniform policy.

We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents/carers is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent or carer would like the school to modify the uniform policy they should make representations in the first instance to the Head of School. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faiths. If there are serious reasons, e.g. on religious grounds, why parents/carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the officially-approved uniform, the school will look at such requests sympathetically.

**The Role of Governors**

The Governing Body supports the Head of School in implementing the school uniform policy. It will consider all representations from parents/carers regarding the uniform policy and will liaise with the Head of School to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the Governors’ responsibility to ensure that the uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

 N**on-compliance with Uniform Policy**

The Head of School can discipline a pupil for breach of the uniform policy. However, the Department for Education (DfE) does not consider exclusion to be an appropriate response to breaches of school uniform policy, *except* where they are persistent and defiant. Where a pupil repeatedly refuses to comply with school’s uniform policy even if they do not otherwise display poor behaviour, we believe that exclusion could be an appropriate response, depending on the circumstances of the case.

The Head of School or any member of the Senior Leadership Team may ask a pupil to go home briefly to remedy a breach of the school’s rules on appearance or uniform. This should be for no longer than is necessary to remedy the breach. This is not exclusion, but an authorised absence. However, if the pupil continues to breach uniform rules to avoid learning, or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the pupil's absence may be counted as unauthorised absence. Pupils will not be sent home indefinitely or for longer than is strictly necessary to remedy the breach as this could amount to an unofficial exclusion.

In all cases, parents/carers will be notified and the absence will be recorded. When making this decision, the pupil's age, vulnerability, how easily and quickly the breach can be remedied and the availability of the parent/carer will be considered. Similarly, for any pupils under the care of the local authority, or subject to a child protection order, sending home will only be undertaken with the agreement of relevant social worker. If the pupil then repeatedly infringes the school's rules on uniform or appearance, this may constitute a disciplinary offence and may be grounds for more serious intervention.

Where a pupil is not adhering to school uniform policy, school staff will be considerate and discreetly try to establish the reasons. The school appreciates there may be good reasons why a pupil is not correctly attired. For example, their uniform may have been lost, stolen or damaged. Sending a pupil home or excluding them may not be appropriate in the majority of cases. If a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform because their parents/carers are in financial difficulties, the school will be sensitive to this. The school will give parents/carers time to purchase the required items and/or consider whether a school or Local Authority clothing grant can be supplied. A pupil will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform.

**Jewellery**

As a general rule, the school does not expect children to wear jewellery. A small number of exceptions are permitted:

* Only one single stud earring in each ear is allowed.
* No personal jewellery other than a wristwatch to be worn
* Medic alert bracelets and necklaces may be worn and need to be visible.

**School Uniform Specification**

All items of uniform must be clearly labelled with a pupil’s name and class.

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| **Optional Uniform for Nursery Pupils** Pale blue polo shirt and navy tracksuit – with or without school logo.Trainers or shoes which children can put on/take off independently. |
| **Compulsory Uniform – Winter**  |
| * Grey skirt or Trousers
* Pale blue skirt ( y1-y6)

(long or short sleeves)* Pale blue polo shirt in reception class
* Navy socks or tights with a skirt
* Grey socks with trousers
* Navy pullover or cardigan with purple stripe round neckline \*
* School tie\* ( from y1 upwards)
* Plain Black robust shoes

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| **Summer Option for Uniform** **Can be worn after Easter holiday****and until the end of September** |
| Blue gingham check summer dress with white socksorPale blue polo shirt with grey shorts/skirtgrey socks for with trousers/shorts and white socks for with skirtsNormal school pullover/cardigan can be worn on cooler days  |
| **Physical Education**  |
| Pale blue T- shirt ( with or without the school logo) Navy shorts Navy tracksuit ( with or without logo) is optional but would be useful for outdoor PEPumps or trainers |
| **All of these items must have children’s names clearly marked and be kept in a PE bag** |
| **We would like to make parents aware that when children partake in sports activities, they are always provided with the appropriate equipment, when it is deemed necessary for their safety. However, should parents wish, they may provide additional safety personal equipment for their child to wear during sports activities in school time, for example, mouth guards and shin pads. If parents chose to provide such equipment for their child then he/she should take responsibility for the items.**  |

**WE EXPECT PUPILS TO ADHERE TO THE SCHOOL UNIFORM, SO THAT A SMART APPEARANCE IS MAINTAINED AT ALL TIMES.**

**Items marked with \* are Acre Hall Primary School specific and can only be purchased through the school’s appointed uniform supplier. This is F.R Monkhouse and Sons. Details of their shops or how to order items over the internet can be found on their website** [**www.monkhouse.com**](http://www.monkhouse.com)

**Additional optional uniform items are also available from the above website – these include school coats – navy with logo – and school bags.**

**Wherever possible school tries to assist parents in obtaining new school wear by inviting the supplier into school at parents’ evenings/new intake meetings and school fairs.**

**Bags**

Pupils will be allowed to bring a bag to hold their homework books and reading books. PE kit bags and lunch boxes may be placed in these or carried separately. In all cases, the child’s name and class should be clearly written on the outside. (small fashion bags are **not** acceptable).

**Notes regarding exemptions to uniform**

* Pupils should have a doctor’s note if they need to wear alternative footwear for the school, due to a medical condition or serious injury.
* Extremes of hair fashions and hair colour, make-up, piercings and eyebrow shavings are not appropriate.
* For any item of clothing, which does not conform to the school dress code, parents will be contacted in order to make arrangements to resolve the situation.

**Items of Value**

The school accepts no responsibility or liability for the loss or theft of any such items. Items of value that are brought into the school remain the responsibility of the pupil at all times.

Pupils are discouraged from bringing large sums of money into the school. If pupils are paying for trips related to the school curriculum, specific details will be sent to parents regarding how safe and secure payments can be made.

**Medical Dispensations**

The policy will meet the needs of individual pupils with temporary or permanent medical conditions. For example, pupils with some skin conditions may be unable to wear specific fabrics and pupils with foot or leg injuries may be unable to wear school shoes. An official medical certificate will be required for any pupil requiring long-term dispensation due to medical conditions.

**Monitoring and Review**

The Governing Body will monitor and review this policy by:

* Seeking the views of parents and carers, to ensure that they agree with, and support the policy
* Considering, with the Head of School, any requests from parents and carers for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform; and
* Requiring the Head of School to report to the Governors on the way the uniform policy is implemented.

The Head of School will work with all staff to ensure this policy is fully implemented. The Head of School will also monitor and review the development of this important policy and include details about it when making a report to the Governing Body on an annual basis.

**Monitoring and review**

The implementation of this policy will be monitored by the Head of School.

**Approval by The Dunham Trust**

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Review date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

This policy, signed by a Director on behalf of the Dunham Trust, is held centrally on the One Drive.

**End of policy statement**