

Killen Primary School



Uniform Policy

Approved by BOG: October 2018

Review Date: September 2022

Introduction

It is the policy of Killen Primary School that all children should wear the Killen school uniform when attending the school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of all the items needed for the children's school uniform in this policy. Sweatshirts, polo shirts and outdoor jackets are available from S&K Shoes, Castlederg. Other items are available from local shops.

Aims and objectives

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- 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, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

As part of our ethos we would like all children to wear the correct uniform properly at all times. This includes to and from school, the playground, corridors and classrooms.

It is important for the promotion of social independence that the younger children are able to manage their own clothes and shoes. This should be considered when purchasing school uniform.

In order to return lost property, all uniform and personal items should be clearly marked, with a permanent marker or label, with the child's name.

School Uniform

- Pale blue school polo shirt
- School sweatshirt
- Mid-grey skirt/trousers or pinafore (girls)
- White/grey socks or plain grey/black tights (girls)
- Mid-grey trousers, grey socks (boys)
- Plain flat black shoes

Optional Uniform

- Blue outdoor jacket

Girls

- Blue and white checked gingham dress

Boys

- Knee length mid-grey trouser shorts.

P.E. Uniform (Year 3 to Year 7 only)

- Children should wear indoor trainers or slippers (plimsolls), T-shirt and shorts
- Hair band/clip to tie back long hair
- P.E. kit should be in a named draw string bag

Footwear

We believe that it is both practical and safer for children to wear flat and sensible black shoes. Platform soles or high heels are not suited to the busy school day. Shoes must be changed for P.E.

Jewellery, hair and make up

Children are expected to leave jewellery, make up and fashion hairstyles for the weekends and holiday times. Children should not come to school with unnatural coloured, dyed or outlandish/extreme hairstyles that cause a distraction to others.

The only jewellery permitted in school on health and safety grounds is a wristwatch or a medical bracelet. Watches should be removed and medical bracelets covered with a sweatband to partake in P.E.

Earrings

If parents opt for their child to wear earrings they must only be small studs, either silver or gold.

Children who are participating in P.E., swimming, sports clubs and /or physical activities must not wear earrings.

On days when these activities are scheduled children must leave their earrings at home. We do not want pupils removing and replacing earrings. This is due to the potential risk of injury, earrings being lost/stolen and the spread of infections. It is therefore recommended that children do not come to school wearing earrings on these days. Children will be asked to remove earrings and to store them themselves.

Staff will not be responsible for the removal, insertion or storage of earrings.

Make up and cosmetics are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform.

Non – compliance with school uniform

If there is a consistent breach of school uniform policy, the Principal will contact the parents. A School Uniform Grant is available to parents who qualify and meet the criteria for Free School Meals. The Eco-school Council, under the leadership of Mrs Palmer, accept unneeded items of school uniform through the Eco-school policy, 'Reduce, Reuse, Recycle', and will resell these, at a nominal cost, at school events. Should any parent like to avail of this opportunity at any other time, they can contact Mrs. Stevenson in the school office.

No child will be disciplined for non-compliance because of their particular cultural, race or religious dress code.

Role of Parents and Governors

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a child with disabilities then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Principal. The school will not treat children with disabilities unfavourably.

The Board of Governors supports the Principal in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Board of Governors will:

- Seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- Consider with the Principal any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations;
- Require the Principal to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Governors every four years, or earlier if considered necessary.