



UNIFORM POLICY

REVISED SUMMER 2017

'Green Lane – a Big School with a Big Heart'



GREEN LANE PRIMARY ACADEMY



Context

Two extensive consultations amongst parents in relation to school uniform resulted in overwhelming support for the wearing of uniform.

In the light of that consultation the governors decided to make the wearing of uniform compulsory at Green Lane Primary Academy.

Rationale

We believe that the wearing of uniform encourages children to have a sense of belonging and of being part of a community. It is an outward expression of the Academy's identity and promotes a feeling of pride and equality. In addition, we believe that the wearing of a 'uniform', as opposed to leisure wear contributes to helping children understand that they come to school to work and learn.

Aims

- To ensure that children wear clothing to school that is safe and practical.
- To promote pride in their school and a sense of identity.
- To promote the idea of Green Lane as a Learning Community.
- To promote the image of the school within the local area and the town.
- To eliminate competition amongst children in relation to what they wear.
- To ensure that the uniform is simple and reasonably priced.

In order to help fulfil these aims extreme hairstyles would be considered unsuitable. E.g. Spikey styles, tramlines, shaved styles, extreme colours, etc.

Health and Safety

There are several health and safety issues which inform our school policy as follows:

- **No jewellery** should be worn except a wristwatch.
- For pierced ears **only stud earrings, one per earlobe, should be worn**. These must be removed for PE. As PE days may change at short notice, children should not wear studs that they are unable to take out themselves. (School staff are not permitted to remove any earrings.)
- If ears are recently pierced, and studs unable to be removed, the stud and ear-lobe need to be covered with suitable medical tape. This cannot be done by teachers – children must either do this themselves or come to school on PE day with plasters already in place. However, we would hope that children had their ears pierced during major holidays to minimise the necessity for plasters.
- Due to the number of stairs, and the fact that children need to be safe whilst in the playground, shoes should be **flat, or low heeled**. 'Strappy' sandals, which provide little support, should not be worn.

- Skirts should be no longer than mid-calf length as long skirts can catch on chair legs whilst sitting and under feet on the stairs.

Religious Considerations

The requirement for modesty for Muslim girls can be accommodated within the uniform. Trousers are a permitted part of the uniform for girls and, therefore, the wearing of other garments under dresses is not necessary.

The hijab (headscarf) is not normally worn by the majority of Muslim girls until puberty. However, we recognise that a small number of families may require their children to cover their hair/heads at an earlier age. Following discussions with parents representing these views and a meeting of the full governing body the following decisions were made:

Providing we are satisfied that the choice is the child's then:

- In Y4, Y5 and Y6 girls can wear the Hijab in royal blue.
- It should at all times be tucked into their blouse or polo shirt.
- Children will, if they wish, be allowed to remove the Hijab for PE or other sporting activities

Sikh boys may wear a 'Patka', in school colours, around their 'bun.'

Due to our context and the many religions and beliefs in our multi-ethnic school, this policy is designed to balance the rights and beliefs of all our families and children.

The policy takes a balanced middle ground and is decided with the objectives of; furthering school uniformity, co-existence and harmony; without compromising personal modesty; and taking health and safety considerations into account. It is also written in the context of an understanding that school is a safe and nurturing environment where safeguarding of children is our prime concern.