



Pentrebane Primary School Uniform and Appearance Policy

(March 2024)



Background

In January 2022, the Welsh Government (WG) issued an updated guidance circular entitled School Uniform and Appearance: Policy Guidance for Governing Bodies.

Introduction

The Uniform Policy of Pentreban Primary School aims to:

- ensure that due regard is given to securing equality of treatment between pupils of different sexes and genders; pupils from different ethnic and religious backgrounds and disabled pupils.
- eliminate unlawful discrimination on grounds of race, sex and gender;
- be cost sensitive and affordable
- provide a sense of identity, community and cohesion within the school
- support positive behaviour and school discipline
- ensure pupils dress appropriately for learning activity
- promote equal opportunities and good relations between persons of different racial groups and between sex/gender groups.
- remove peer pressure to dress in particular fashions
- enable pupils of all backgrounds to share in a common identity which embraces their particular requirements
- help reduce inequalities between pupils and help reduce some triggers for bullying
- benefit safeguarding and attendance policies through helping to identify truants
- assist identification of strangers on school premises
- support and promote the ethos of the school.

Equality

We will endeavour to act fairly and reasonably when implementing our school uniform and appearance policies. We will endeavour to avoid discriminating unlawfully on the grounds of sex, race, religion or belief and disability. We aim to accommodate religious needs in our uniform policy and we want to ensure that our policy does not disadvantage disabled pupils compared to pupils who are not disabled. We will try to make reasonable adjustments to accommodate disabled pupil's requirements. We state the composition of our uniform in a way that does not discriminate on the basis of gender identity.

Cost of School Uniform

We have communicated to parents that, although we do have uniform with logos on, we do not expect any pupil to wear these. In fact, we actively encourage parents to purchase uniform-type clothing from supermarkets where they are considerably cheaper. We also run a uniform bank where parents can get items of uniform for free. We ask that pupils wear clothing that is suitable for the task of learning in a primary school: indoor and outdoor play, PE and Forest School. We have chosen colours for our uniform but we do not enforce this.

Jewellery, hair and makeup

We strongly advise that no items of jewellery are worn by any child. This is for reasons of health and safety (risk of injury during play and PE lessons) and risk of loss of valuable items. We do accept that pupils may wish to wear earrings and these should be limited to small studs for safety and to wear watches. We have no restrictions on hair styles but we request that no pupil wears any make up.

Medical Issues

We will respond to any request for consideration of temporary or permanent medical impairments that require a pupil to wear items of clothing that we would normally discourage e.g. a pupil with a foot injury who is unable to wear shoes.

Complaints

Complaints about our Uniform and Appearance Policy will be dealt with in accordance with our complaints procedure.



Financial Assistance

The Welsh Government recognises that some parents face financial hardship from the costs of purchasing school uniforms for their children. The Welsh Government also believes that the financial support parents receive towards the cost of school uniform should not be a barrier to learning.

In 2018, the Welsh Government replaced the former School Uniform Grant with a new fund: PDG-Access which is a component of the Pupil Development Grant.

The Funding is available to pupils who are eligible for free school meals in qualifying school years. For 2020 to 2021 and 2021 to 2022 the grant is available to eligible families with children entering:

- reception class of maintained Primary Schools
- year 1, 3 and 5 of maintained Primary schools
- year 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 12 of maintained secondary schools
- for learners in a special school, special needs resource base or pupil referral unit and are aged 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 13, 14 or 15 on entry

The Funding is also available to all looked after children of compulsory school age.

Funding of up to £125 is available for each eligible learner with the exception of those in Year 7. Eligible learners in Year 7 will be entitled to a maximum of £200.

Asylum Seeker pupils entering Reception; Year 1, Year 3, Year 5, Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11 are entitled to assistance under this Funding if they fulfil the eligibility criteria. We ask local authorities to use their discretion to allow pupils with no recourse to public funds (NRPF) to access the grant. Pupils with NRPF entering the above school years in the 2021 to 2022 academic year are entitled to assistance under this Funding.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be monitored by the governing body every two years, or earlier in the light of any changed circumstances, either in our school or in the local area.

Mrs E. Prescott
Headteacher
March 2024

Mr D. Corp
Chair of Governors