

# Ennerdale CE Primary School

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Headteacher: Mr David Moore



Dear Parents

Before Christmas we introduced our potential new uniform to you and asked for your comments about it. Thank you very much to everyone who responded. We have also consulted the children on what they think and discussed the reasons for changing it at the governing body. After all this we are able to say that although not everyone will be in agreement with everything, the vast majority are very happy with the proposed changes and we have decided to now formally go ahead with them.

Alongside the new uniform there will be a new uniform policy, which is being sent out to you via scholar pack next week. This as well as laying out what the uniform expectations are, gives reasons why we feel as a school a uniform is important. The key objectives are:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school;
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- identifies the children with the school;
- supports our commitment to inclusion;
- prevents children from wearing 'fashion clothes' that could be distracting in class;
- is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind;
- is considered good value for money by most parents;

When children enter secondary school the uniform will be strictly enforced with consequences for failing to comply; we have no intention of sending children home for breaches in expectations but hope parents will support us by trying their best to make sure children follow our policy.

We decided to create a uniform policy as over the last couple of years it has become increasingly noticeable that children are wearing a wide variety of different clothes that do not fit in with the unofficially agreed guidelines we have in place. On trips out the school has rather stood out, looking scruffy when compared to other local schools. One of the unique characteristics of Ennerdale is that we don't necessarily have the same formality as some other schools but it is important we look smart and present an image that reflects the high standards we expect of our children.

One of the concerns parents had was that they didn't want to have to buy new uniform when their child's current one still fitted which is more than understandable. Due to this although our new uniform will officially start in September 2018, children will be able to wear the old uniform for a further year in a transitional period. This should help alleviate another concern that was raised, that some families passed on outgrown but still serviceable uniform to other families. After a year there will be a stock of new but already outgrown uniform available for recycling. New uniform will be available for purchase from Easter onwards as I know there will be some children who will need new sweatshirts etc. to see them through to the end of the year and obviously buying the old style would be foolish. We would ask you though to resist changing over until the September where possible. The policy will have a full list of all expectations but the important part is as follows:

## **School Uniform List**

Our school uniform colour is a combination of sapphire blue and white/grey/black/navy. All items can be bought through school from our supplier School Identity, when bought this way they will come with the school logo embroidered on them. However most items can also be bought from High Street shops and supermarkets but without the school logo. Please speak to Gwen or look on the school website for details of prices.

### **Girls and Boys**

- Grey/Black/Navy shorts/trousers /skirt/pinafore dress/ or blue and white checked gingham dresses
- White polo shirt or blouse
- Sapphire blue sweatshirt, cardigan or zoody, (not hoodies)
- With skirts/dresses; plain white/grey/navy short or knee length socks or;
- Black, navy or grey tights

### **Footwear**

Shoes should be flat, black and appropriate for school. Where trainers are worn these should be plain without excessive logos. Your child should wear shoes which he or she can manage to do up independently. Please do not send your child to school in shoes which prevent them from running in the playground. If boots are worn these also should be plain black. Children who wear boots that prevent them from sitting comfortably on the floor may be asked to wear their PE shoes whilst inside the building.

There is also an official PE kit which you will find details of in the uniform policy. This will apply especially when we are taking part in competitions and tournaments with other schools.

Again there is no expectation that parents will buy new shoes until old ones are worn out or outgrown. Black trainers are ideal as they can be used for a variety of uses being both comfy for indoor wear and suitable for running around the playground.

We will soon have a new online ordering system up and running so parents no longer need to come into the office, though we are more than happy for you to continue ordering through Gwen if you prefer.

Hopefully you will all agree that the changes will bring a new smartness to the children and that you will support us in the implementation phase over the next year. If you have any questions please get in touch.

Best wishes

David Moore