



Learning Together

Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School

School Uniform Policy



Date September 2024+

Date of Next Review As required

Introduction

It is our policy that all pupils should wear school uniform when attending Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours.

Our school uniform is distinctive, smart and important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as a school family and it promotes a strong, cohesive school identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life and harmony between different groups represented in the school. It is our belief that the wearing of school uniform by pupils encourages respect in personal appearance and helps promote positive behaviour and therefore contributes to more effective learning and teaching.

We are very proud of how smart our pupils look in their school uniform and thank parents/carers for their support in this area.

This policy is in keeping with the guidelines provided by the Department of Education Northern Ireland (Circular 2011/04).

Aims and Objectives

Our policy is based on our belief that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- makes pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be)
- is practical and smart
- is cost effective

Our School Uniform

Our school uniform is as follows:

<u>Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 (Year 1 – Year 4)</u>	<u>Key Stage 2 (Year 5 – 7)</u>
Grey pinafore/skirt/trousers/shorts White polo shirt preferably with school logo or white shirt and school tie Navy V-neck sweatshirt/cardigan preferably with school logo Socks (white/grey/black) and tights (grey/black/navy)	Grey pinafore/skirt/trousers/shorts White shirt and school tie Navy V-neck sweatshirt/cardigan preferably with school logo
<u>Summer Uniform – September, April, May and June:</u>	
White polo shirt preferably with school logo Light blue checked gingham dress (fitted black/grey/navy shorts can be worn under the dress if wished)	

Please note – lots of companies offer sensory and adaptive school uniform ranges

Footwear

Shoes/Trainers should be of a sensible, comfortable design, low heeled, toe covered and **all black** in colour. Shoes if laced should have black laces.

Hair

Hair should be neat and tidy and worn with no extremes of style or colour. Long hair should be tied back, particularly for PE. Hair accessories should be appropriately sized and in keeping with the school colours.

Jewellery

In relation to health and safety we do not allow pupils to wear jewellery in our school. The exception to this rule is the wearing of plain silver or gold studs in pierced ears (please note only one piercing per ear is acceptable). However, the wearing of studs is also **strongly discouraged** due to health and safety concerns.

Please note that it is the policy of the Joey Dunlop Leisure Centre that pupils are not permitted to participate in the school swimming programme if they are wearing jewellery of any kind.

Please note that watches are not considered items of jewellery and may be worn. However, depending on the activity, it may be appropriate for pupils to be asked to remove their watch on health and safety grounds.

Smart watches cannot be worn in school. If a pupil comes to school wearing a smart watch they will be asked to leave their smart watch in the school office with pupil mobile phones.

Make up

It is deemed inappropriate for pupils in our school to wear make-up or nail polish and therefore no make-up or nail polish should be worn.

Physical Development and Movement (Foundation Stage)/Physical Education (KS1 and 2)

Physical Development and Movement/Physical Education is a compulsory part of the statutory curriculum from the age of 4 to 16. Clothing and footwear are important aspects to safety in Physical Development and Movement/Physical Education. For hygiene and health and safety reasons, it is essential therefore, that pupils are dressed appropriately and wearing appropriate footwear. Trainers/plimsolls should be worn when the pupils are taking part in physical activities.

Year 1 – 4 pupils will come to school in their school uniform and only change their shoes when taking part in Physical Development and Movement/Physical Education. Parents/Carers are asked to provide plimsolls/trainers without laces to make changing a more simplistic task. Plimsolls/trainers should be labelled and in a named bag. Plimsolls/trainers can remain in school or be brought in on PE days. Please ensure that long hair is tied back on Physical Development and Movement days.

In line with good practice and hygiene guidance, pupils in Y5-7 will come to school in their school uniform and change for PE. At the end of the PE sessions pupils will change back into their school uniform. Changing for PE helps to develop pupils' independence in learning how to dress themselves and take care of their belongings, two important life skills. This will also help prepare pupils for their transition to post-primary school. Pupils should come to school every day in full school

uniform unless otherwise advised. PE uniform should be plain in appearance and not display any commercial sports brands or be linked to any sporting teams.

Year 5 – 7 pupils change for PE and need the following:-

- navy/grey/black shorts/ jogging bottoms/leggings
- white t-shirt/polo shirt
- trainers
- soft elastic/bobble to tie back long hair
- girls must remember to bring socks if wearing tights

Swimming

- girls – one-piece costume
- boys – trunks
- towel

The Role of Parents/Carers

We ask all parents/carers who send their children to Ballymoney Model Integrated Primary School for their support of the school uniform policy.

We believe that parents/carers have a duty to send their child/ren to school equipped appropriately for the day ahead. This includes ensuring that child/ren are correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork which may include, PE, games, swimming or after school activities.

The school greatly appreciates the support of parents/carers in labelling items of uniform with their child's name, by keeping uniform clean and encouraging their child/ren to wear it with pride every day. We would ask that you check name labels periodically as these often wash out or come off in the wash, meaning that we cannot match lost items to their owners.

Parents/Carers are asked to inform their child's class teacher if there is a problem, and their child is unable to come to school in the above noted uniform.

The Role of the Board of Governors

The Board of Governors support the Principal in implementing the School Uniform Policy. They consider all representations from parents/carers regarding this policy and liaise with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly, consistently and with sensitivity.

The Principal/Board of Governors will refer to DE Guidance and 'The Association for Physical Education's Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport' document for guidance in matters that may present themselves in the future and are not included in this policy. The Board of Governors will use this guidance to inform policy making or to make changes to school policy should the need arise.

Uniform/PE Grant Form

Financial assistance is available through EA Free School Meals/Uniform Allowance service. Further information is available on the EA website <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

Monitoring and Review

The Board of Governors are very proud of how the pupils look with respect to the wearing of our school uniform and thank parents/carers in anticipation of their valued support in this important area of school life.

Pupils in Y4-7 are encouraged to wear the correct school uniform through the awarding of a daily point within the school's house point system.

The Board of Governors, and Principal will consider carefully any request for a modification to be made for any individual pupil, on the grounds of religion, race, gender, special educational need or medical condition.

This policy will be reviewed when the need arises.

School Uniform Suppliers

Robert Gault, Ballymoney

Heart and Home, Ballymoney and Coleraine

S & T Moores, Coleraine