



Uniform Policy

REVIEW DATE – AUTUMN 2025

INTRODUCTION

It is our school policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal hours

AIMS

This policy has been developed in line with our belief that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride amongst the pupils
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging
- Is practical and smart
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and is considered by parents as good value for money
- Is designed with Health and Safety in mind
- In creating pride and a sense of community, a school uniform fosters good behaviour and adherence to rules.

Evidence has shown that attendance, learning and behaviour can all be negatively affected in schools that follow a non-uniform policy.

In schools that follow a non-uniform policy, many parents find that their children become fixated by fashion trends. This can result in pressure on parents to purchase the latest football top or fashion item. Rivalries can also develop based on clothing and fashion within classrooms and this can have a very serious negative effect on pupil's learning and cause discourse among peers.

NEWTOWNARDS MODEL PRIMARY SCHOOL UNIFORM CONSISTS OF:

Girls

- Grey pinafore or skirt
- Navy cardigan or jumper with school badge
- School tie
- White knee socks (navy tights may be worn in cold weather)
- A blue gingham dress may be worn in the summer term
- Plain black shoes. For safety reasons, shoes must not have high or platform heels and must have either laces or a securing strap. Pumps are not acceptable as they can slip off and cause injury. Likewise, high or platform heels can accentuate ankle injuries and lead to serious injury.

Boys

- Grey school trousers (no cargo pockets)
- Navy jumper with school badge
- White shirt
- School tie
- Plain black shoes
- Grey shorts may be worn with grey socks in the summer term
- A crested white polo shirt may be worn in the summer term.

P.E. UNIFORM

P1 children wear their school polo shirt and school tracksuit for P.E lessons.

For all other children the P.E. uniform consists of:

- Crested tracksuit bottom. (Tracksuit top is available but is optional)
- Crested navy shorts
- Crested white polo shirt
- Navy school jumper or cardigan can be worn over the polo shirt for warmth
- White socks
- Training shoes specifically for sport (not leisure shoes).

Pupils should wear their P.E Uniform on scheduled days for P.E / relevant educational visits or other occasions when instructed to by a member of staff.

SWIMMING

Boys –swimming trunks or swimming shorts (not surfing shorts)

Girls- one-piece bathing suit (not a bikini)

Sliders or flip-flops should be worn in the community changing facility at the leisure centre.

COSMETICS

We do not consider the use of cosmetics, make-up, or nail varnish to be age appropriate and hence they are not permitted in Newtownards Model Primary School.

JEWELLERY

In school, children are permitted to wear one small, plain, stud type earring. Hoop earrings can be the cause of serious injury and must not be worn at any time.

For safety reasons, children must not wear jewellery of any kind on the days when they are involved in P.E. or swimming. If children remove earrings before P.E. or swimming, there is the risk of cross infection of Hepatitis B, if earrings are mixed.

Those children with recently pierced ears who need to leave earrings in place permanently for a number of weeks should inform the school by letter that this is the case. The request for permission to do so must cover this initial period only. During this period the child will need to wear plasters over their piercings for P.E. and swimming. In such circumstances, children should come to school with plasters over their piercings or bring a plaster from home.

Children will not be permitted to participate in P.E. or swimming lessons if the procedure above is not followed.

ROLE OF THE CLASS TEACHERS AND SUPPORT STAFF

- Set a good example in terms of dress.
- To remind children to wear school uniform. The class teacher will speak to children who do not wear the correct uniform. If they still are not wearing the uniform, they are to be referred to the Principal.
- To ensure that the uniform is worn in a presentable fashion and not tied around the waist or left untucked.

ROLE OF THE PRINCIPAL

- The Principal should ensure that pupils comply with the uniform policy agreed by the Board of Governors.
- The Principal has a duty to enforce the school uniform, as part of the duty, within the maintenance of day to day discipline in the school.
- The Principal will speak to the parents of children who persistently do not wear the correct uniform.

THE ROLE OF THE PARENT

For hygiene and health and safety reasons we expect every parent to support the school in ensuring these guidelines are followed and their child/children, is/are properly equipped for school.

If for whatever reason children are not able to wear the expected uniform, then parents should provide the school with a note of explanation.

All items of uniform should be clearly labelled. The school can not be held responsible for the loss of any items of uniform.

LOST PROPERTY

Lost items will be placed in Lost Property (located in the Front Foyer) and parents and children can source any lost items here. At the end of the school year, any items remaining will be displayed and parents will be given the opportunity to claim misplaced clothing before the items are recycled.