Amble Links First School
Uniform Policy

Date Written: **May 2021**
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Responsible Governor: **Strategic Policy and Direction Committee**
Adopted by Governors: **May 2021**
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The Governors of Amble Links First School believe that a school uniform is an important contributor to the overall success of the school and therefore expect that the school uniform will be worn by all children including those in the Nursery and the Little Pebbles 2 Year Old Provision.

Our policy is that all children should wear clothing that is in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos.

Our policy is based on the belief that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school and their personal appearance.
- engenders a feeling of belonging.
- is practical and distinctive.
- identifies the children with the school.
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothing might be).
- makes children feel equal to one another in terms of appearance.
- reflects the sense both of community and of diversity that the school takes pride in.
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by parents.
- supports safety and hygiene.

Our School Uniform Consists of:

- Grey or black trousers, shorts, skirt or pinafore dress.
- Blue and white checked summer dress.
- Royal blue school sweatshirt or cardigan.
- Pale blue polo shirt.
- Plain grey, black or blue tights.
- Plain white or grey socks (with skirts/dresses).
- Flat black shoes with closed toes; or black boots*.

*these should be comfortable for children when sitting on the floor and, for the safety of others, not of a heavy Dr Marten style. Children should be able to take on/off and lace/unlace footwear themselves

During winter months children may wear wellingtons/boots to school but these must be stored in a bag and indoor shoes must be worn whilst inside the building.

PE Kit

For practicality and time-saving, we ask parents to send their children to school in trainers and jogging bottoms with their usual top half school uniform on their allocated PE days.

All clothing should be clearly labelled with children's names. This is especially important, as uniform items look similar and can easily be confused for another child's. The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost items.

Purchasing School Uniform

Uniform items, including jackets, fleeces, hats and bags may be ordered online from our uniform supplier at https://www.totstoteams.com/schools/amble-links-first-school/ A link to this website is also available on the school website. Additionally, a small stock of school sweatshirts and cardigans is available for purchase from the school office.

Hair and Jewellery

- Children may only wear plain stud earrings to school. These should be removed on PE days. Children may wear stoppers to replace earrings during PE lessons.
- Long hair should be tied back.
- Nail polish is not acceptable as part of the school uniform.

Role of the school staff

- Set a good example in terms of dress.
- Remember that in our respective roles we serve the local community as a set of professionals.
- To remind children to wear school uniform. The class teacher will speak to children who do not wear the correct uniform.
- To initially speak to parents of children who are not wearing the correct school uniform.
- Refer children persistently not wearing school uniform to the headteacher.

Role of the Headteacher

- to ensure that pupils comply with the uniform policy agreed by the governing body.
- to enforce the school uniform throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day to day discipline in the school.
- to speak to parents of children who persistently do not wear the correct uniform.

Role of the Parents/Guardians

- To ensure that their child/children adhere to the school's uniform policy.
- Ensure that children come to school in uniform every day unless there are special circumstances such as non-uniform days.
- To ensure that all uniform is labelled correctly and clearly.

The governing body recognises its obligations to accommodate reasonable religious requirements within the official school uniform and to ensure it is not discriminatory on the grounds of gender, culture, race, religion or sexual orientation.

Non-Adherence

The governing body will insist that the school is considerate and discreet when trying to establish why a pupil is not adhering to the school's uniform policy. The school will work with parents and carers to find acceptable solutions that will help the pupil adhere to the uniform policy.

Class teachers or the Headteacher will initially speak with parents of children who are not wearing the correct school uniform. In most cases this resolves the situation. Where there is persistent or defiant non-adherence to the uniform policy the school may employ one or more of the following options:

-Send a letter home informing parents that their child is persistently not wearing the correct uniform (this will include a copy of the school's uniform policy).
-Arrange a formal meeting with parents to discuss the issue and seek resolution.
-Provide the child with more appropriate uniform items to be worn whilst in school (eg. School jumper, grey trousers/skirt, black plimsolls).

Where a child autonomously breaches the school's uniform policy this will be dealt with through the school's published behaviour policy. Whilst the Head teacher may discipline pupils appropriately for non-adherence to the policy, exclusion from the school will not be deemed appropriate action unless non-adherence is persistent and defiant. Where parents make a choice to provide uniform that does not adhere to the school's policy the school will aim to provide a solution that will not disadvantage the child's education.

In accordance with guidance on school uniform from the Department for Education, the headteacher, or a person authorised by the headteacher, may ask a pupil to go home briefly to remedy a breach of the school's rules on appearance or uniform. When making this decision schools need to consider the child's age and vulnerability, the ease and time it will take, and the availability of the child's parents. This is not exclusion but an authorised absence. However if the pupil continues to breach the uniform rules in such a way as to be sent home to avoid school, or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the pupil's absence may be counted as unauthorised absence.

Disputes about school uniform should be resolved locally in accordance with the school's complaints policy. It is expected that the governing body would consult and work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome with a focus on not disadvantaging a child

This policy will be reviewed every 2 years or sooner if necessary.

A COPY OF THIS POLICY IS AVAILABLE IN LARGE PRINT ON REQUEST