



## St Peter's C of E Primary School School Uniform Policy

<b>Staff consultation:</b>	October 2009
<b>Curriculum committee:</b>	October 2009
<b>Ratified by governors:</b>	October 2009
<b>Review dates:</b>	October 2011

*This policy should be implemented within the context of the vision, aims and values of our Church School.*

### **Introduction**

The government is currently promoting higher standards of school uniform and the Local Authority in partnership with schools, governors and unions have developed 'Guidance for Schools on School Uniform and Dress Codes'.

The purpose of this guidance is to support the development of a school uniform policy which is sensitive to the needs of and beliefs of the whole community. Schools should act fairly and reasonably, bearing in mind their duties under the Human Rights Act 1998 and antidiscrimination legislation which are explained within this document.

It has always been our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus.

### **Aims**

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school in line with our ethos;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- supports positive behaviour and discipline;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school and encourages identity with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance and helps nurture cohesion between different groups of pupils;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

### **Jewellery**

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games or cover them with a plaster to prevent them from causing injury.

## **Footwear**

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to or in school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list unless it is playtime or PE.

## **Hair**

All children, girls and boys, are requested to tie hair up where it is long enough to do so. This is for both health and safety reasons and to look smart and ready for school. Hair **must** be tied up in PE. In swimming, we request that all children wear a swimming cap.

Hair cuts must be appropriate, practical and smart to promote a sense of pride in line with the school ethos and a feeling of equality amongst the children.

## **The Role of Parents**

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy they should make representation in the first instance to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

## **The Role of Governors**

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the Governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to appear and dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

## **Monitoring and Review**

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the Headteacher to report to Governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

## **Review**

This policy will be reviewed in line with the schools' policy review schedule.

Signed.....  
Chair of Governors

Date.....