



No Child Is Left Behind

DRESS CODE POLICY FOR CHILDREN

Statutory Policy 09.06.15/16

To be reviewed every 3 years

Review date 09.06.20/21

Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school and when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a list of the items needed for school dress code in our school brochure and reminders are given to parents and children about our dress code on a regular basis.

The Ghana Education Service (GES) believes that school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting the appropriate tone. GES, therefore, strongly encourages schools to have a dress code as it can instil pride; support positive behaviour and discipline; encourage and identify with and support for, school ethos; ensure pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcomed; protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; and nurture cohesion and promote good relations between different groups of pupils.

Aims and objectives

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

1. promotes a sense of pride in the school;
2. engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
3. is practical and smart;
4. identifies the children with the school;
5. prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes/footwear that could be distracting in class or on the playground;
6. makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
7. is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
8. is designed with health and safety in mind.

Our School code of dress consists of:

GIRLS

1. Red sweatshirt/cardigan or jumper
2. Blue jeans trousers (no jeans in any colour)
3. No accessories
4. White plain socks
5. Black shoes with strap, buckles or Velcro
6. Red and green PE kit with trainers or plimsolls
7. Green and red dress (below knee) level
8. Black sandals with straps and cover toes (No heels/ platforms/slippers)

BOYS

1. Red sweatshirt/cardigan or jumper
2. Green and red Shirt
3. Blue jeans trousers
4. Red plain shorts
5. Grey, white socks
6. Red and green physical education (hereafter, PE) kit with trainers or plimsolls
7. Black shoes or black trainers (without logo, flashing lights etc)
8. Black sandals with straps and cover toes

All clothing should be clearly named. Any items lost will be stored in school lost property for half a term.

Our school PE kit is part of the code of dress and consists of:

Indoor Outdoor

1. Red and green top and shorts
2. Plimsolls (trainers slip-on, laced or velcro) (Chinese shoes)
3. PE bag.
4. NO ear rings or jewellery. Earrings must be removed or covered with sticking plaster before PE.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears (one in each ear) and watches, and small objects of religious significance. We ask the children to remove these items during PE and games, to prevent them from causing injury. If children are unable to remove items independently then they should not be worn on PE days.

Hair and make up

Children should not come to school with extreme haircuts (faded hair, punk, tramlines) or colouring that could serve as a distraction to other children are not appropriate. Hair extensions are not allowed.

Hair bands, beads, clips etc are prohibited. No makeup or nail varnish should be worn during the school day. Similarly, permanent/ temporary or fake 'tattoos' are not appropriate.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We do not allow children to wear shoes with platforms or heels in our school. We also believe that coloured footwear or footwear with logos is inappropriate and not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school dress code. We require all children to wear black shoes or black trainers as stated in the dress code list. It is school policy for pupils to change into PE plimsolls or trainers if they do not come to school in appropriate footwear, and to wear their PE trainers on the playground. Flat sandals that provide firm support and covers toes may be worn in but they should have a strap.

Seasonal safety

All children require a jumper or cardigan in school when the weather is changeable, cold or wet. On hot sunny days children should be protected from the sun when outdoors by:

wearing a hat or cap

We recommend that children do not bring sunglasses to school as they can get lost or broken and can cause injuries on the playground. However, if children need to wear sunglasses eg. hay-fever then please inform the school.

The role of the school

Items bearing the school logo are available for purchase through school. The school will make every effort to ensure these items are of reasonable quality and an affordable price. There will be consultation with parents in the event of any change in supplier of uniform items. The school accepts no liability for loss or damage to items of school dress, or personal items worn or brought into school. Acceptance of the school's dress code policy forms part of our Home-School Agreement. If a child comes to school not wearing code of

dress on a particular day there may be a good reason and a short explanation from the parent/ carer at the start of the day would be sufficient. If a child comes to school not wearing code of dress and no reason is given, then in the first instance, a member of staff would have a discrete discussion with the child to give them chance to explain and to remind them of school policy (for example, a child might be asked to change into PE pumps if their footwear is unsuitable for wear in school or a child wearing a hoodie to school would be asked to remove it and put it in a bag.

In the event of persistent or flagrant disregard for school policy, parents will be contacted. There will be an opportunity for parents to make representation to the governing body.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school dress code policy including footwear and PE kit. This agreement is entered into as part of the home school contract which parents are asked to sign and a copy kept at school. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for learning. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct clothing, including appropriate footwear, PE kit (indoor and outdoor) and that it is clean and in good repair.

DAF is a Christian school and follow the principles of Christ Jesus. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities, who wants to be taught and nurtured in our principles of training them in Godly manner and discipline. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school code of dress, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. If any parent would like the school to modify the dress code policy, they should make representation to the Governing Body.

The Role of Governors

The governing body supports the head teacher in implementing the school dress code policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy and liaises with the head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school dress code meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school dress code policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school dress code policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical. For continual and persistent disregard for the school dress code which is not resolved at an informal level, parents/ carers will be invited to meet with the governing body.

Monitoring and review

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school dress code policy through;

1. Seeking the views of parents, to ensure that the majority agree with and support the policy;
2. considering, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school dress code;
3. requiring the Headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school dress code policy is implemented.
4. This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.