

Pupil Dress Code

School Uniform

Brackenagh West Primary School believes that school uniform and a school dress code plays an important part in supporting the ethos of the school by:

- * Promoting a communal identity unique to the school
- * Creating a sense of belonging
- * Reflecting high standards of appearance
- * Promoting a sense of pride in the school community
- * Protecting pupils from social pressure to dress in a particular way
- * Promoting cohesion and avoiding differences between groups of pupils.
- * Creating equality and lessening distractions.

School uniform teaches children about dress code, which is an important life lesson; especially for those approaching high school where schools often apply very strict uniform policies. It would be unfair to give children too much flexibility with school uniform as it will make the transition to secondary school more difficult. This policy also aims to avoid cases of taunting about clothing and/or appearance.

Boys' Uniform

Grey School Sweatshirt (with School logo)
Red Polo Shirt (with School logo)
Grey Trousers
Grey Socks
Black Shoes

During the summer term the boys may choose to wear a pair of grey, tailored shorts with grey socks and black school shoes.

Girls' Uniform

Grey Pinafore or Skirt
Grey School Sweatshirt (with School logo)
Red Polo Shirt (with School logo)
Grey Socks or Grey Tights
Black Shoes

During the summer term the girls may choose to wear a red gingham dress with white socks and black school shoes, if they wish. The dress can be worn with either the standard school sweatshirt or a grey cardigan.

Girls may also choose to wear plain black boots during the winter months, if they wish.

Other Forms of Dress Code

Jewellery

Pupils should not normally wear jewellery to school. We are happy if pupils wish to wear a wrist watch or stud ear-rings in ear lobes, but ask that other jewellery items be left at home. Pupils are not permitted to wear ear stretchers. Facial piercings of any sort are not allowed. Stud earrings must be removed for PE. Therefore, please do not allow pupils to have piercings during term times or any holiday when the piercing will not heal.

Make Up

Make up, including nail varnish or false nails, is not permitted. If pupils come to school wearing make-up they will be asked to remove it.

Hair Cuts and Hair Accessories

We have clear views on suitable haircuts, hair styles and hair colourings for pupils who attend the school. Pupils should not have brightly coloured or multi-coloured hair, unless this is allowed for a designated fundraising event. Pupils should not have bleached streaks in their hair, tram lines, logos or other patterns shaved/cut into their hair. Pupils should not have shaved heads. In addition, pupils should not have 'radical' hair styles (eg: a Mohican). Girls should not have extravagant decorations in their hair and any hair bands/accessories should be plain and in a simple colour. Short hair should be one length all over the head. Long hair should be tied back for PE lessons and clipped back / prevented from falling over the face during class.

The definition of an extreme hairstyle is applied at the discretion of the Principal, in keeping with the principles of this dress code.

Safety

No jewellery is permitted for PE. Earrings must be removed by the pupil prior to the PE lesson. The school is not responsible for the removal of earrings or their safe keeping. If your child is not able to remove their own earrings s/he must not wear them to school at all on PE days.

Newly pierced ears take a period of up to six weeks to heal before earrings can be removed. Ears should therefore be pierced at the start of the summer holidays to allow sufficient time for earrings to be safely removed.

The school does not provide plasters to cover over earrings during PE lessons as this is not enough adequate protection. For safety reasons long hair should be tied back for PE.

Labels

All items of uniform that are worn to school must have the pupil's initial and surname clearly written in/on the item of clothing. The school is not responsible for any pupil's belongings. In the event of damage or loss, however caused, the school will not recompense pupils or parents/carers.

Exceptions

Where students have a temporary or a permanent medical condition (e.g. pupil with a foot or leg injury may be unable to wear school shoes or a pupil who is unable to wear specific fabrics because of a skin condition) parents/carers should contact the school to discuss this further so the uniform policy can be adapted for exceptional circumstances.