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July 2020

School Uniform – 2020/21

Dear Parents/carers,

As communicated in last week's September full re-opening letter, the children will be required to wear full uniform when they return in September. The purpose of this letter is to communicate our draft school uniform policy and to highlight points relevant to COVID-19 and the recent school closure.

First, it is worth noting that the policy attached is in draft form until we have consulted all stakeholders. Having said this, the basic information regarding uniform remains consistent to the years previous so felt it was worth sending this out now in order for parents to consider when purchasing new uniform.

Prior to school closure, we were in the process of reviewing the Uniform Policy. The intention was not to make any wholesale changes but just to tighten up on some areas. In addition to this, although we had numerous uniform documents, the uniform 'policy' itself needed reviewing and editing.

However, with the societal impact of COVID-19, we recognise that we need to be as flexible as possible upon the start of the new academic year.

An example of this was our original intention to reiterate that skirts, shorts and trousers should be grey in colour. Whilst this is preferable from September, we have adjusted the intended policy so that it is clear that these items can be purchased in black, if grey is not possible.

As a reminder, the West Monkton uniform is as follows (the draft policy attached has more detail):

- Grey (or black if not possible) skirt, trousers, shorts or pinafore dress. **Jeans and tight fitting skirts, of any kind, are not permitted**
- White or blue blouse/polo shirt (with or without school logo)
- Maroon jumper/cardigan/sweatshirt (with or without school logo). **Hoodies are not permitted as school uniform.** However, West Monkton PE hoodies may be worn during PE lessons
- Summer dress (pink/red check or stripe)
- Grey or maroon tights (or black if not possible)
- 'Closed toe' school shoes. **Heels and trainers are not considered part of the school uniform.**



Outdoor Wear

- Waterproof outdoor wear, to be worn during outside/OPAL play, is encouraged
- Wellington boots that can be kept in school.

PE Kit

- Pair of trainers (daps should be avoided as the children are outside quite a lot)
- Blue plain T-shirt (with or without logo)
- PE shorts (plain - black or navy)
- Tracksuit – warm tracksuit for the winter months
- Logo PE Hoodie (Optional)
- Long hair **must** be tied up for PE.

From the above list, the emphasis on the following is important and must be adhered to for September:

- **West Monkton hoodies are for PE lessons only**
- **Trainers are not being acceptable for the school day (aside from lunchtime and PE)**
- **No jeans or tight fitting skirts, of any kind, are permitted**
- **No large bags/rucksacks in EYFS, KS1 and LKS2 (see phase leader letters).**

Quite often we are open to the children wearing trainers at lunch if they are playing football as this saves their school shoes from being damaged. However, children must be willing to change their shoes on the first bell to ensure they are ready for afternoon lessons to begin.

If you need to clarify any part of the uniform expectations or require exemption, please see your child's class teacher in the first instance.

Thank you in advance for your support in our school's continued development.

Best wishes

James Blackmore
Headteacher

