



Raise Education & Wellbeing School Dress Code – Young people

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Signed	



Overview

At our school, we recognise the importance of allowing young peoples to express their individuality through clothing choices while maintaining a smart and appropriate appearance for school. Therefore, our school follows a non-school uniform approach to supporting our young people's individuality and aligns with the guidelines followed by other independent schools in the UK that do not have a school uniform. This policy aims to ensure that all young people wear clothing that is comfortable, safe, represents the school positively, and fosters a conducive learning environment. We believe that it is important for young people to express themselves and their individuality whilst also learning how to make positive social, emotional, cultural and moral choices around dress code, behaviour and attitude, and respect for self, parents, school and the wider community. We work with young people, parents/carers and families to ensure we support young people and offer them the opportunity to enjoy this special time of childhood and adolescences without any inappropriate pressures from peers in school and or community, media, and or wider negative societal influences.

To provide clarity, consistency in approach and ensure young people, parents/carers, and school professionals are fully aware of what is appropriate and what is inappropriate for our school environment we have provided the following school policy information:

Prohibited Clothing & Reasons

Inappropriate slogans or graphics

1. Wearing clothing with offensive, discriminatory, or inappropriate slogans or graphics goes against our values and could create an uncomfortable or distracting atmosphere for others. Safety for all is paramount.

Revealing or tight-fitting clothing

1. We require young people to wear clothing that is modest, comfortable, and allows freedom of movement during various activities. Tight or revealing attire may not provide the necessary level of comfort required for effective learning.
2. Tight revealing clothing is not appropriate for the school environment this includes:



- I. Trousers and or tracksuits that are tight, revealing, and or being worn too low exposing underwear.
- II. See-through or very tight leggings and or body suits
- III. Low cut, revealing tops and/or vests.
- IV. Tight or revealing shorts.

Beachwear or sleepwear

1. Beachwear, including swimwear, and sleepwear such as pyjamas, are not suitable for a school environment. Young people should dress appropriately for educational purposes to maintain professionalism and respect.

Clothing promoting illegal substances or activities.

1. Any clothing promoting or depicting illegal substances, alcohol, tobacco, violence, or explicit content is strictly prohibited as it undermines our commitment to creating a safe and healthy learning environment. This includes bandanas, balaclavas, face masks, hoody's covering the head and/or face, and the wearing of gloves in the school building.
2. We understand that some young people may wear face masks, balaclavas and gloves before and after school in an appropriate way for the purposes of cycling to and from school as well as using these to keep warm during winter months. Although, these items of clothing remain prohibited inside of school and within classrooms, school's grounds, and whilst visiting other sites, facilities, activities, and educational visits. We therefore ask young people to place these items in their school bag, coat pockets, and or hand them in to be locked away safely until they need them at the end of the school day.

Inappropriate footwear

1. Young people must wear suitable footwear that ensures their safety, supports good posture, and is appropriate for school activities. Open-toed shoes – sandals, sliders, high heels, or footwear that does not provide adequate protection will not be permitted. This is to ensure everyone follows health and safety in the school and workplace.



The Importance of Appropriate Clothing

Wearing appropriate clothing serves multiple purposes within our school community:

- **Safety:** Ensuring that young people are dressed appropriately reduces the risk of accidents, promotes physical well-being, and provides adequate protection in different situations.
- **Positive Representation:** Proper attire reflects positively on the individual and our institution, showing respect for oneself and others while embodying the values of our school.
- **Focus on Learning:** By eliminating distractions caused by inappropriate clothing choices, young people can better concentrate on their studies and contribute to a more conducive learning environment.

Implementation:

To ensure a harmonious and respectful environment during school hours, including extracurricular activities, it is mandatory for all young peoples to comply with this policy. We kindly request parents/carers to stay informed about the requirements of this policy and support us if incidents and issues arise through regular notifications, communication, and working together.

Our dedicated leaders, managers, supportive teachers and multidisciplinary specialist support staff members role model our expectations and values as a school that promotes individuality, appropriateness and professionalism. Staff do this by making professional choices to present in school with clean and smart clothing, appropriate to their roles and responsibilities throughout the school day. Such clothing being appropriate for classroom duties, vocational skills (Personal Protection Equipment PPE), PE, games, sports and outdoor education, creative learning, therapeutic activities, horse riding, and wilderness therapy, as well as professional meetings on behalf of the school.

Staff will diligently monitor and promptly address any instances of non-compliance related to young people wearing inappropriate clothing for classrooms, our vocational skill centres, and whilst on educational visits to places and spaces our school uses to provide our exceptional broad ranged offer.



Actions:

Our aim is to nurture a positive atmosphere where everyone feels safe, respected and valued. We may ask your child to return home to change into appropriate clothing, or for you to bring in appropriate clothing, or for them to wear their own clothing they have with them that is more appropriate clothing for school i.e., long sleeve top, hoody, jumpers, and or sweatshirts, tracksuit pants and top etc (this list is not exhaustive but is for example purposes only to give guidance around wearing clothing that is deemed appropriate and is not as stated in the prohibited clothing section).

Please note that repeated or severe incidents of not following this policy may result in us needing to consider exploring other consequences and actions.

However, we understand that certain events or authorised occasions may require exceptions to be made. In such cases, prior approval from the school administration is necessary.

We strongly encourage all young people to adhere to this policy and choose their clothing with care, respect for the school and our rules to ensure safety and positively representing our school and considering the impact it has on themselves and the wider school community.

We encourage parents to support our school and work with us to fulfil our shared responsibility to teach our children and young people what is right, wrong, appropriate and inappropriate in terms of dress code, respect for self, others, and school, and the link with positive behaviour and attitudes. Ultimately, we want our children and young people to be safe and happy, and to be able to express themselves in ways that positively represent them and our school and to focus on their progress in learning and personal development without disruption or interference.

By adhering to this policy, we strive to create a conducive learning environment that respects individuality while upholding the values and standards of our school.

Thank you for your cooperation in maintaining a safe and inclusive educational environment for all.

Jason Steele

CEO & Proprietor

Raise Education & Wellbeing School

November 2023