School Uniform Policy

Penpych Community Primary School
Ysgol Gynradd Gymunedol Penpych

Policy Leader	**: Mrs Shepherd (FEO)**
Head teacher	**: Mr T Lewis**
Chair of Governors	**: Mr M Cude**

Policy applies to Academic Year 2026 -27

Signed HT: **Date: September 2026**

Signed CoG: **Date: September 2026**

This plan is a:	**School Plan using LA & WG guidelines**
This plan is a:	**Statutory Document**
Policy / Document Leader:	**Mrs K Shepherd**
Link Governor:	**Mr M Cude**
Key Personnel in Plan	**Head Teacher**
Published / located:	**Website/ School Administration Office**
Aims of Plan: • **To outline the policy and provision for school uniform at the school**	
Review date	**September 2026**
Next review date	**September 2028**
Reviewed by	**Policy committee**

School uniform and appearance: policy guidance for governing bodies (WG23-17)

Issues to consider when implementing or changing school uniform and appearance policies.

Status of guidance

1.2 This guidance from Welsh Government is statutory and as such governing bodies and head teachers must have regard to it when formulating and revising their school uniform policies.

1.3 This guidance replaces thee previous non statutory guidance entitled "Guidance for governing bodies on school uniform and appearance policies" published in July 2019 (Circular 247/2019).

School uniform and appearance: policy guidance for governing bodies (WG23-17) | GOV.WALES

The power to introduce a school uniform policy is contained in section 88(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006. Whilst this section does not specifically mention school uniforms it is broad enough to include it. This section places a duty on governing bodies to ensure that policies designed to promote good behaviour and discipline are pursued at the school.

In addition, section 89(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 also places a duty on the headteacher to determine measures (including rules and provisions for enforcing them) to be taken with a view to promoting discipline among pupils, a proper regard for authority, encouraging good behaviour and respect for others and otherwise securing an acceptable standard of behaviour. It is a requirement of section 89(6) that any measure introduced by the headteacher under section 89(1) of the Education and Inspections Act 2006 should be publicised by him in the form of a written document. That document should be made known within the school and to parents of registered pupils at the school.

It is 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 and on our website –https://www.penpych-primary.co.uk/

Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that when properly developed and appropriately implemented, a school uniform can:
• provide a sense of identity and cohesion within the school and instils pride in its achievements;
• can support positive behaviour and school discipline;
• can ensure pupils dress appropriately for learning activity;
• can remove peer pressure to dress in 'designer' fashions;
• can enable pupils of all backgrounds to share in a common identity which embraces their particular requirements;
• can help reduce inequalities between pupils and some triggers for bullying;
• can help identify truants; • can assist identification of strangers on school premises; and
• it can support and promote the ethos of the school.

Jewellery
On health and safety grounds we do not allow pupils to wear any jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule is a wrist watch and stud earrings . We ask the pupils to remove these objects during PE and games, to prevent them from causing injury.

Extreme haircuts and colours
The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts and unnatural hair colours that could serve as a distraction to other pupils. Only basic hair accessories to be worn i.e. scrunchies, bobbles and headbands which should be appropriate.

Footwear
The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for pupils to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow pupils to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow pupils to wear trainers to 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 pupils to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list. Shoes need to be black in colour.

Outerwear
A suitable plain, dark coloured coat may be worn as outerwear to and from school. There should be no logos on this clothing

Additional Guidance:

TROUSERS: Plain, grey classic school- style trousers. These should be straight legged and not a tight, 'bootleg', 'drainpipe 'or 'jeans' style nor should they be 'low-rise'. There should be no large belts or buckles. Trousers should not be made out of a denim fabric or leather.

SKIRT: Skirts should not be tight, slit, or made of stretch fabric. The hem of the skirt shouldbe no more than 5cm above the knee.

HATS and Head Covering: No hats to be worn in school buildings. The wearing of a head scarf or hijab, for religious reasons, is permitted. Garments covering the face or whole body, for example the abaya and niqab are not permitted.

SHIRT/BLOUSE: Plain white, long or short sleeved shirt/blouse with stiff collar. The shirt/blouse should be tucked into the waistband when worn under a jumper/sweatshirt so that it is not visible below it.

HEALTH AND SAFETY, HAIR:
Pupils with long hair or headscarves are required to tie them back safely for PE and work in science labs or technology workshops.

Process
The role of parents/carers We ask all parents/carers 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/carers is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious or medical grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Head teacher. We advise that all items should be clearly marked with the child's name on it.

The role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Head teacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents/carers regarding the uniform 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 uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Complaints

Complaints about school uniform (or dress) and appearance codes/policies are dealt with in accordance with the governing body's complaints procedure. Non-compliance with school uniform policy: the headteacher to enforce codes as part of his or her overall responsibility for the day-to-day running of the school and for maintaining discipline.

Headteachers should decide what action to take when pupils infringe a school's uniform or appearance rules. Headteachers can discipline pupils for breach of the school's uniform/appearance policies. However, they should first appropriate amount of time for the required items to be purchased and offer information about any assistance the LEA or the school is able to offer.

There may be other reasons apart from financial ones or defiance as to why a pupil is not complying with the uniform or appearance policy. For example, their uniform may have been lost, stolen or damaged, or accidentally soiled beyond the point where it can be worn and it may not be possible to wash and dry some articles of clothing overnight. The Welsh Government would not expect headteachers to send children home in these circumstances. Other reasons could be that the uniform is not available in the pupil's size, or there may be religious reasons that have not been previously identified.

The Headteacher may ask pupils to go home to change their clothes without formally excluding them. This should be for no longer than necessary to effect the change of clothing and would only be appropriate where the change could be made quickly and easily.

The Headteacher should not send a pupil home indefinitely or for longer than is necessary to change clothes or modify appearance (e.g., by having a haircut) as this could amount to an unofficial exclusion. When sending a pupil home, headteachers or senior staff should bear in mind the age and vulnerability of the child and should contact the parents or carers if necessary. The pupil would be expected to return to school immediately his/her clothes had been changed. Failure to do so could amount to an unauthorised absence.

Exclusion and non-attendance

Exclusion is not normally an appropriate response to breaches of school uniform/appearance policies. However, where these breaches are persistent and in open defiance of the school's uniform or appearance policy, and where all other avenues for resolving the uniform dispute have been exhausted, then the school may consider exclusion as a last resort depending on the circumstances of the case.

Governing bodies need to ensure that absenteeism does not arise because families are unable to provide uniform for their children. If that arises, information and other appropriate assistance should be given to families by the Local Authority or the school.

Welsh Government School Uniform Grant Scheme

The Welsh Government recognises that some parents face financial hardship from the costs of purchasing school uniform for their children. The Welsh Government also believes that the financial support parents receive towards the cost of school uniform should not be affected by where in Wales they live. In June 2005, the Welsh Government introduced an all-Wales school uniform grant scheme to assist families on low incomes with the purchase of school uniform for their children. The scheme has been targeted to assist those pupils entering secondary school as this is the time when parents face the biggest cost for school uniform in one go. The scheme provides a grant to pupils entering Year 7 of maintained secondary schools in Wales who are eligible for free school meals, and pupils in special schools, special needs resource bases and pupil referral units in Wales who are aged 11 at the start of the school year and who are eligible le for free school meals. The grant scheme is being administered by local education authorities on behalf of the Welsh Government. Schools should advise parents that applications for this grant should be made to the local authority.