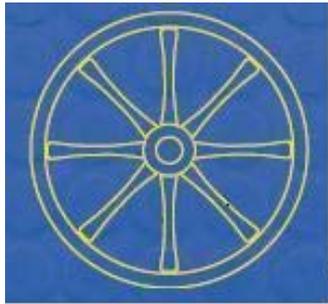


P.E. (Clothing, Footwear and Personal Effects) Policy

Wheelwright Lane Primary School



Learning For Life

Review: April 2020

At Wheelwright Lane Primary School, we recognise Physical Education (PE) as a key area of learning within the National Curriculum. Physical activity is integral to the good health of our children and thus, suitable PE kit is essential in ensuring that pupils access the PE National Curriculum to its potential, and participate safely and comfortably in physical activity at School at the earliest age possible.

We follow guidance given in the 'Safe Practice: in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity (PESSPA) (pg. 174) which states that, 'students should wear clothing that is fit for purpose according to the activity, environment and weather conditions'. Children should change into suitable PESSPA clothing (or 'kit') in order that they may participate safely and securely.

We believe that a uniform kit encourages our children to take responsibility for their own safety and comfort while participating in sport. It also enables them to have a sense of belonging to a community and promotes a feeling of pride and equality.

ALL pupils should bring their PE kit to school even if they are not going to be actively involved as a performer. If a pupil is injured or unwell, a signed note from the parent or guardian must be provided to the PE teacher at the start of the lesson. Pupils who are excused will still need to change into PE kit as they will be involved in the learning process through the role of a coach, umpire, referee or leader (unless physically unable to change e.g. a broken limb).

Wheelwright Lane Primary School PE Kit is compulsory and consists of:

- Blue PE T-shirt.
- Black PE Shorts for indoors or fair weather.
- Dark, plain Jogging Bottoms and top (jumper or zip-up other than school jumper) for colder weather (no logos).
- Sports trainers for outside (KS2 children) Black pumps for outside (Reception and KS1 Children)
- Black pumps for inside PE
- Spare socks

Staff will be sensitive when dealing with any concern arising from the wearing of certain items of clothing specific to religious requirements (pg. 175). Children should be able to experience a broad PESSPA programme whatever their cultural background, while schools must continue to have regard to health and safety and equality regulations.

Security of footing is crucial in all situations. All staff and children need to change into footwear that is appropriate for the lesson location and activity taught. All participants need footwear that is fit for purpose and appropriate for the surface conditions and activity (see guidelines pg.176/177). All footwear must be of the correct size and correctly fastened.

Other equipment, such as shin pads, may be worn if allowed by the staff member taking the session; however, children are not expected to bring these and would not be excluded from participation.

If taking part in football, or other field-based team sports, moulded footwear is permitted. Metal studs are not to be used. Where a group presents a variety of footwear for outdoor lessons, the teacher will determine whether the lesson can proceed as planned or whether some conditions need to be applied to maximize safety (e.g. splitting the group according to footwear or assigning different tasks as appropriate). For many reasons (e.g. financial pressures on families), children should never be excluded from taking part in a lesson due to not having the correct footwear. Every effort will be made to involve the children in as much of the physical part of the lesson as possible, and to provide alternative activity-related tasks when this is not possible (pg. 177).

How often kit (including swimming kit) is not brought in will be tracked by the teacher and parents will be contacted if it occurs twice in a half-term. Pupils who fail to bring in the correct PE/swimming kit will be required to borrow school kit if it is available. Persistent failure to bring the correct PE/swimming kit will result in missed break time. If families are experiencing financial hardship it is expected that they will discuss any issues regarding the inability to pay for kit, in confidence, with the HT.

Long hair must be tied back in order to prevent entanglement in apparatus and to prevent it obscuring vision.

All jewellery and personal effects must be removed for PE. Children should remove earrings themselves and the teacher will keep them safe until the session has ended and then return to the children to be put back. If children are unable to do this themselves then earrings should not be worn on days when the class has sport and parents will be expected to remove these at home. Swimming regulations allow earrings to be left in place if the child has a swimming cap that covers the earrings; the school will adhere to this regulation. If children have recently had their ears pierced and need to keep them in for a set time then parents should discuss this with the staff member and earrings taped until they can be removed (see below). Parents often choose to have this carried out at the start of the summer holiday.

Staff should always give a verbal reminder and visually monitor the group. If items cannot be removed such as: a child has newly pierced ears (i.e. 6 weeks or less) then the item(s) must be made safe (covering with tape). Religious artefacts should be removed wherever possible. Where removal is expressly forbidden (Sikh bangle, the kara), and the article cannot be made safe by taping' padding or covering with a sweatband then the activity (including swimming) and involvement of the wearer must be suitably modified to mitigate undue risk. (pg.181)

Children in Year 3 access swimming facilities at Exhall Grange Special School throughout the year. Children will be required to bring swimwear that should be sufficiently tight-fitting to allow freedom of body and limb movement. A specialist, qualified swimming teacher will be employed to deliver the swimming curriculum. Accompanying school staff will support the swimming teacher and assist where required. It is expected that children will abide by the rules and code of conduct at Exhall Grange and those of Wheelwright Lane.

Staff will always endeavour to change into appropriate clothing for teaching physical education or leading PESSPA clubs or activities. Teachers are encouraged to come to school appropriately dressed in P.E. kit on the days when they are teaching P.E. so that they can model appropriate behavior. On the rare occasion that this proves difficult or impractical, a change of footwear and removal of jewellery, at the very least, should always be undertaken.

The teacher is responsible at all times to abide by the rules and regulations of this policy. Parents/carers will be required to accept the decision of the school with reference to clothing, footwear and personal effects and abide by the requirements in this policy. (Disclaimers from parents alleging the removal of responsibility from teachers with respect to clothing, footwear and personal effects will be declined. Such indemnities have no legal status. The duty of care remains firmly with the school on such matters.)

For specific advice regarding individual activities/procedures etc. staff should refer to the Safe Practice: in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity guidance kept in the resources room (photocopier room).

This policy applies to all teaching of P.E. at Wheewlright Lane School, including external coaches who provide extra activities on behalf of the school either at the school site or at another site e.g Exhall Grange Swimming Pool.

Policy shared with staff on.....25th April 2018 to be reviewed every 2 years.

Policy ratified by staff only.