

UNIFORM SURVEY FOR PARENTS & CARERS

- YOUR RESPONSES -



Dear Parents/Carers

As you know, we issued an updated draft uniform policy recently, plus a Survey asking parents/carers for their views.

The Survey responses are set out below. Each bullet-point represents a separate parental comment. We have removed all names (replacing them with "my son/my daughter").

We will carefully consider all of the responses, and then build them into the next version of our Policy, to be issued as soon as possible.

Many thanks for your views

Mr McAnaney and the GPS Team.

30 November 2015

A large, black-outlined arrow pointing to the right, containing the text "HERE GOES!..." in a bold, italicized, sans-serif font.

HERE GOES!...

We asked:

(these questions accompanied the draft policy we sent out to you)

- 1. What are your views on the guidelines for basic uniform for boys and girls (we are referring to the main uniform items such as skirts, trousers, shorts, polo shirts, sweatshirts, etc)?**
- 2. Do you agree that black shoes should be worn in school? Having read the other suggestions on footwear, in the draft policy, what do you think?**
- 3. What do you think of the recommendations on PE Kit? Do you agree with them? How do you feel about the recommendation that white t-shirts, plain black shorts, and plimsolls are worn? Also, do you like the idea of a drawstring bag for PE kit?**
- 4. Have you any feedback on our recommendations regarding jewellery, hairstyles and make-up? Do you agree with what's in the draft policy? Please give the main reasons for your answer.**
- 5. Any other comments related to uniform?**

The Survey said:



1. What are your views on the guidelines for basic uniform for boys and girls (we are referring to the main uniform items such as skirts, trousers, shorts, polo shirts, sweatshirts, etc)?

- *I agree with guidelines for basic uniform policy.*
- *Smart, and it's good for children to wear a uniform.*
- *We are happy with the uniform, my son likes polo, T-shirts & shirts. ASDA store is good value for uniform and the quality.*
- *I agree with guidelines for basic uniform policy.*
- *The uniforms are very smart, however I don't think the official cardigans & jumpers are the best quality. They don't wash well and are replaced regularly. Perhaps they could be made from a different material.*
- *White polo shirt gets discoloured after a few washes. It can be hard to take stains off.*
- *I like the school uniform as it is, simple and easy to buy especially as they grow although I wish the polo shirts weren't white as they are hard to clean even when treated. I have to keep buying more, wish it was a darker colour, that's just me!*
- *Good*
- *Great*
- *I agree, and am happy with the present policy for uniform because it keeps unity among pupils.*
- *It all makes sense and I always believed this was policy.*
- *I think uniform is fine, don't like white polo tops, can't get marks out - paint etc. I would prefer navy polo tops or a dark colour.*
- *Would like sweatshirts, cardigans to include colour grey, why do girls tights have to be black, grey or navy and not white when there is no navy in uniform – white is sometimes cheaper.*
- *I agree that every child should wear the same school uniform.*
- *The guidelines for uniform are good and this is how the uniform should be.*
- *I think the school uniform is very smart.*
- *It's OK for me, it's good.*
- *I agree with the basic uniform, although leggings in appropriate colours are comfortable*
- *I like the basic uniform, it's smart and not expensive at all, meaning all children look the same.*
- *No issues whatsoever. Easy to get hold of, reasonably priced.*
- *I agree with the guidelines for the uniform.*
- *I agree with the guidelines.*
- *Lots of options for girls which is great. Much more limited for boys. Girls can wear gingham dresses – can it be opened up to give boys other options, i.e. gingham shirts. Can boys wear a cardigan? Different fabrics are available in shops for girls – can boys wear these too? e.g. my son has a smart pair of trousers in a different coloured cotton fabric – are those OK?*
- *No problems, though my son prefers to wear a shirt rather than a polo shirt.*
- *The uniform is very smart – it's great that you're flexible with black/grey trousers/skirts.*
- *Yes I agree with this*
- *Agree with Grangetown School uniform policy strongly and is very smart and east to obtain.*
- *I think it's acceptable.*
- *I agree that a uniform should be worn.*
- *I think the uniform is very smart.*
- *I feel this is what it should be like.*
- *I agree with the uniform – we follow the agreed uniform code.*
- *Fine*
- *I agree with uniform.*
- *I agree with guidelines for the uniform but would like the white polo top to be changed to a different colour as white is hard to keep clean.*
- *I agree with what the uniform should be.*
- *Basic uniform is fine.*
- *Fine.*
- *No concerns and it looks smart.*
- *Good, happy with guidelines.*

- *I think the uniform is great but not the white polo shirts. They are no good for little uns as they stain quite easy and need replacing quite often.*
- *I think the uniform policy is good to keep all children looking smart.*
- *I agree with the guidelines for uniform but would like to see the white polo top changed from white as it's a hard colour to keep clean.*
- *Would love grey to be included with sweatshirts and cardigans because find very hard to find boys tank tops in blue for summer.*
- *I think the uniform is good.*
- *It's simple and easy to follow. Can black dresses be added for girls too?*
- *I think all of the children look very smart in their uniforms.*

2. Do you agree that black shoes should be worn in school? Having read the other suggestions on footwear, in the policy, what do you think?

- *Yes, I agree with all shoe suggestions.*
- *Yes. Unless for medical reasons.*
- *I agree with the black shoes policy as it looks smart with the rest of the uniform.*
- *I agree with that.*
- *Yes I do. I think it's OK.*
- *Yes.*
- *Agreed with black shoes.*
- *Yes.*
- *I agree with that.*
- *As long as shoes are sensible and comfortable I don't see how colour makes a difference.*
- *Agreed with black shoes.*
- *Yes I believe black shoes are the best option as they look smart and are practical.*
- *Yes, the shoe/trainer is fine as I think enforcing black leather formal shoes would be a waste of teachers' time. I agree no branded/logo shoes.*
- *Totally agree with black shoes. Boots or wellies for winter.*
- *Yes, makes children look neat and tidy.*
- *I also agree with every child wearing a black pair of school shoes with no other colour. Although in the winter I will be sending my child in boots.*
- *I agree that only black shoes should be worn in school. I don't think wearing sandals in summer is appropriate for safety reasons and will lead to children wearing any colour.*
- *Yes, I think black shoes should be worn by every child and parents who do not follow rules should have a letter sent out.*
- *I do agree.*
- *I agree that named brands should not be allowed, but I think that brown or navy sensible shoes should be allowed.*
- *Either black or brown shoes look smart.*
- *I agree to some extent but in winter smart boots should be allowed – not just plain black boots (which are very hard to get hold of for children!). I have recently just bought dark brown boots with flower straps on which I do not want to be a waste of money!*
- *Yes I agree*
- *Yes, I don't have a problem with my daughter bringing shoes to change into when wearing boots.*
- *Dark coloured shoes perfectly acceptable. Not sure why black has to be the only option! Girls can wear black, grey or navy tights – why can't this be expanded to include shoes? Black is limited and boring. Can we give the children a little more choice?*
- *Yes, he will need to do this in secondary school, though we feel that allowing children to then play football at break causes a problem and destroys the shoes. Could trainers be worn at break time?*
- *Black shoes form a big part of the uniform – looks smart.*
- *Yes I agree with this*
- *Black shoes are the most sensible and majority are comfortable.*
- *I agree.*
- *Yes*
- *Agree black shoes.*

- *Yes, black shoes should be worn as they always look smart.*
- *I do agree with black shoes. However, my daughter is wearing boots and to go buy another pair of shoes for her to wear during school time is an extra cost I cannot afford.*
- *Definitely*
- *I do agree as it looks smart.*
- *Yes I agree as black shoes are smart looking.*
- *I think it should be black shoes only as it looks smarter.*
- *Yes I agree smart to wear with uniform.*
- *Yes I agree*
- *Yes*
- *Yes, black shoes are much smarter.*
- *Yes, I agree on plain black shoes and I agree on not having marks on shoes i.e. Nike, Adidas, as some parents cannot afford them and it causes bullying by other children.*
- *Yes black shoes, no other.*
- *I definitely agree on plain black shoes with no marks on them to stop bullying on children whose parents can't afford name shoes.*
- *I agree as black shoes are smart looking.*
- *Yes*
- *As long as footwear is sensible and black I have no issues.*
- *Yes, it is hard to find "shoe" type styles now so the options need to be more open but still black.*
- *Yes I agree.*

3. What do you think of the recommendations on PE Kit? Do you agree with them? How do you feel about the recommendation that white t-shirts, plain black shorts, and plimsolls are worn? Also, do you like the idea of a drawstring bag for PE kit?

- *I think trainers and plimsolls should be able to be worn. It is extremely difficult to find plimsolls to fit my daughter.*
- *Drawstring bag – don't like the idea. I prefer a good bag to put homework and books in.*
- *I agree with all of the above – my daughter has just started Reception and all the clothes were easy and simple to buy and I like the drawstring bag.*
- *I agree with them.*
- *Yes*
- *Not sure why the shorts need to be black when the school uniform is blue.*
- *PE kit recommendations are not enough for whole set of PE, there must be included black bottoms as well.*
- *Yes, I'm happy with the PE kit.*
- *I agree with them.*
- *Agreed, and drawstring bags a good idea.*
- *Yes, this PE kit is easily accessible and inexpensive.*
- *I have no issue as I thought this was the policy anyway. Only question is can they still wear plimsolls outside as they don't have trainers.*
- *PE kit fine.*
- *Yes, think PE kits are fine.*
- *Yes, it goes in with the uniform and even though it's only PE the children still need to look smart.*
- *I understand this was the recommendation for PE kit already and agree this is how it should be.*
- *The PE kits are cheap enough to buy and the drawstring bags are a great idea especially for the young children as they are easier to open and close.*
- *I do agree, I like it.*
- *I think that keeping PE kits the same for every child is good as it stops children from wearing named brands and some without.*
- *My daughter has all of these including a drawstring bag.*
- *PE kit – no issues at all.*
- *My son has a drawstring bag and I agree with the PE kit.*
- *I agree with the PE kit however am glad you have allowed a generous transition period as only*

purchased navy shorts for her return to school in September.

- *I think it is dull, and white is not the most practical colour as it is very difficult to keep clean. Can it be opened up to either navy, grey or royal blue.*
- *I/we thought this was the PE kit anyway. Yes regarding the PE bag, my son regularly 'forgets' his PE kit, this may help with this.*
- *We buy the logo PE t-shirts from Little Gems, again it looks good. We also bought the bag from Little Gems.*
- *Yes I agree with this*
- *Very good and most adequate. White t-shirt and black shorts and plimsolls are easy to obtain from most retailers.*
- *I agree with them and do like the idea of a bag.*
- *I think children should be able to wear anything for PE.*
- *Nothing wrong with PE kit and my son has a drawstring bag.*
- *Yes, I agree with all aspects of the PE kit so there is no competition on who has the best footwear or clothing.*
- *I am fine with the PE kit (my son is wearing black trainers as we could not find a size plimsoll to fit from 4 different shops).*
- *Sometimes black plimsolls are hard to find in a particular size so think that white should also be allowed.*
- *It has been like this since my first born child came to this school. I have had no concerns with this!*
- *Yes I agree.*
- *My daughter has this and I agree.*
- *Yes I agree.*
- *Yes*
- *Yes and drawstring bags would be good.*
- *OK, agree there should be a transition period as last year we were advised to get blue shorts and so have also bought them this year. We already have drawstring bags for PE kit.*
- *I think the PE kit recommendations are fine, totally agree with it. The drawstring bag is a good idea as it is easier for younger children.*
- *No complains, my child has exactly that in his drawstring bag.*
- *I totally agree with the PE kit and the drawstring bag is a good idea especially for younger children.*
- *I agree*
- *Fine*
- *I am OK with everything but plimsolls as I don't think they are safe and give support to their feet and ankles. I would never do exercise in plimsolls - why should a child?*
- *I have always sent my children with this PE kit, it is simple and cheap.*
- *Yes, the PE kits seem fairly priced and I think drawstring bags are a good idea.*

4. Have you any feedback on our recommendations regarding jewellery, hairstyles and make-up? Do you agree with what's in the draft policy? Please give the main reasons for your answer.

- *I agree with this policy.*
- *I agree with them.*
- *I agree with your policy.*
- *Of course, for health & safety reasons regarding jewellery and there is no need for the use of make up in primary school.*
- *Yes, I agree*
- *I agree with make-up and jewellery recommendations but I don't think hairstyles will distract other children.*
- *Yes*
- *Absolutely agreed.*
- *Yes I think no jewellery because for safety and shouldn't be worn at any time.*
- *I agree with your policy.*
- *I agree.*
- *Absolutely agreed.*

- *I agree with the whole policy.*
- *No make-up or jewellery unless it's a non-uniform charity event. Same for hairstyles.*
- *I think all girls must have hair tied back (& boys) if long and if not must have to tie back at school because of head lice. Boys hair short and smart.*
- *All girls should have to have their hair tied back and a definite NO to jewellery and make-up.*
- *I agree this is right and keeping hair tied back to stop the spread of head lice and stop children playing with their hair.*
- *I agree jewellery, tattoos and make-up, however I feel hairstyles do not affect children's learning, but I do not believe in young children dying their hair.*
- *I do agree, the safety is in first place.*
- *I agree with the jewellery, hairstyles and make-up.*
- *I believe that as long as the child has small earring studs in then it can be acceptable. No young child should wear make-up, with maybe the exception of lip balm.*
- *Agree with draft policy completely.*
- *I agree with the policy, jewellery shouldn't be worn or make-up. The children are at school to learn.*
- *I agree with the Policy. It's a school not a fashion parade.*
- *Yes.*
- *Yes, again this will be the same in secondary school so they might as well get used to it!*
- *Safety first! Hairstyles play a big part in uniform – long hair tied back, boys short, sensible cut makes the individual look smart.*
- *Safety policy is always the best for children. Children have enough time to wear make-up when older.*
- *I agree jewellery shouldn't be worn, also make-up.*
- *Yes, I agree.*
- *Don't think jewellery should be worn as it can get pulled off, & kids should not wear make-up.*
- *I think all children with long hair should have it in bobbles and keep out of eyes so it doesn't distract themselves or anyone else.*
- *The policy is fine. I do agree with watches and studs.*
- *Recommendations are well done. I believe a child shouldn't wear make-up outside of general play and dress ups anyway.*
- *I agree with the policy.*
- *Yes as the children are too young to wear jewellery and make-up.*
- *For safety reasons I believe children should not wear jewellery for school.*
- *Yes.*
- *I disagree that the boys cannot have lines or patterns in their hair, it's like saying the girls can't wear pretty bobbles or bunches, could this not also be a distraction?*
- *I agree with hairstyles & make-up recommendations. Hairstyles, tying hair back reduces spread of head lice. Jewellery, don't think that earrings should be worn at all as could be caught at playtime.*
- *I agree on them all especially only being able to wear studs but I don't understand why they can't be a stone in them.*
- *I agree on everything in the draft policy.*
- *I agree.*
- *Yes, girls and boys long hair should be tied back and if not have to at school because of head lice. And boys' hair short even with lines (not zig zag) it looks smart.*
- *I agree with the draft policy.*
- *Yes, I agree, they are primary age children and should dress in a suitable way.*

5. Any other comments related to uniform?

- *Present uniform is good enough and within range of buying.*
- *I don't think sandals should be allowed even with socks as they don't protect their feet and could be a safety issue with trips.*
- *No, apart from polo tops, everything else fine.*
- *It's a lovely uniform.*
- *Simply uniform should be worn by all pupils so no child is singled out if their parents can't afford expensive designer clothes/shoes.*

- *Just query the plain black boots for winter. Smart dark coloured boots should be sufficient.*
- *White shirts are not the most practical choice, especially when children use black markers which don't wash out! An option apart from white would help i.e. navy, grey or royal blue if available. Children take jumpers off during winter & summer when they are hot. White and grey does look dull.*
- *Yes, previously some parents commented on the white polo shirts. My daughter is in Year 4. I can honestly say I've never had an issue with them (whites with whites), the polo shirt and sweatshirt really complement each other – look so smart. Please don't change colour!*
- *Wish they could wear dark t-shirts as the paints etc used within school are a pain to wash out which result in most being disposed of.*
- *I like the way the uniform is.*
- *School uniform is very smart.*
- *Change the polo shirts back to navy for Nursery and reception.*
- *Could you have a wider range of tights colours – white tights are very cheap, easy to find and look smart? Could this be phased in as I have already based my purchases on the uniform policy on the website in the summer.*
- *All of the children from Grangetown look very smart and I like to see all of the children in uniform.*

A message from Mr McAnaney and the GPS Team

Many thanks for your views. It's really important that on this, and on all other school matters, home & school work closely together.

As a school, we always consult with parents and carers on a range of important issues. We aim to work with you as partners in your child's learning. Please be assured that your views are listened to and are highly valued.

In terms of Uniform, we will carefully consider all of the responses. The views expressed will influence the next version of our Policy, to be issued as soon as possible. As you know, no huge changes are planned - perhaps just a few tweaks, in response to the parent/carers survey.

