

Newnham Junior School



16th January 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

Uniform Consultation

I am writing to consult with you regarding proposed changes to the PE uniform worn at the school.

The Uniform Working Group (a group of parents and school staff) have put together a proposed uniform to be worn from the start of the next academic year in September this year. You will be asked to give your opinion on these proposed changes when you complete the questionnaire which will be available to fill in after the forthcoming parents and carers meetings.

Reasons for changing the PE uniform - I know that most parents/carers and teachers appreciate that the children wear their PE uniform for two days a week. It is more hygienic than leaving the kit at school in a bag, it reduces the risk of kit getting lost, the children gain at least 10 minutes of PE and there are no issues about having to change in front of each other. Multiple sources of evidence show the benefits of a uniform are wide ranging: it improves behaviour; helps children identify with the school; makes children feel proud of the school they attend; can be far more economical and decreases the chance of bullying as all children are wearing the same clothing. Currently our PE kit has no identity, it does not make the children feel proud to wear it and is far too open in choice, allowing children the possibility to comment negatively on what their peers are wearing.

Government legislation - The most recent government legislation for school uniforms can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms>. The proposal the working group has put together follows the government legislation. The cost has been kept as low as possible and alternatives for logoed uniform have been sought. The cost of the proposed uniform is in line with other local schools and far cheaper than what you will be expected to pay when your child goes to secondary school.

The proposal - You will have a choice to buy polo shirts and hoodies with or without the Newnham logo but items must follow the colour scheme and not be branded, except for trainers. Please note that costs are based on prices from November 2022:-

- Trainers – these will be no different to what the children currently wear.
- Tracksuit bottoms – Black jog pants (unbranded and no leggings) available from most clothing stores. Lowest price £4 from Asda.
- Shorts – Black rugby shorts (unbranded - no football shorts, cycling shorts, skorts or skirts) available from most clothing stores. Lowest price £3 Asda (£6 for 2)
- Shirts – White polo shirt – with Newnham logo £7. Unbranded white polo shirt available from most clothing stores. Lowest price £10 for 3 from Marks and Spencer.
- Hoodies – Burgundy hoodie – with Newnham logo £14. Unbranded burgundy hoodie from Amazon £10.50

Total cost for kit excluding trainers

- With Newnham logo £28
- Without Newnham logo £21

These prices have been rounded for ease of comparison. We are currently researching whether you will be able to purchase Newnham sew on logos.

Newnham Junior School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare and safety of all pupils and expects all members of the school community to share this commitment.

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Your choice - Once all of the questionnaires have been completed, we will let you know whether we will make the proposed changes or not.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'N. Wilkey', written in a cursive style.

Mr N Wilkey
Headteacher

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