

Ref: PEKit/ImprovingStandards/SS/noc

21<sup>st</sup> April 2023

Dear Parent/Carer



**Bloxwich Academy**  
'Be The Best You Can Be'

Following on from our recent correspondence regarding school PE kit, I would like to thank those of you who have fully supported the school's approach to raising standards, and our efforts to try to remove the competitive element when it comes to uniform.

Although the vast majority of parents have understood our reasons for tightening up on this aspect of school life, we have received some negativity. I would like to respond to these comments further by clarifying why the uniform policy is in place and why children wear kit on their PE days.

We have a blanket approach to our uniform policy. This is to ensure that all children feel that they are equal to their peers; that they do not feel like they need to compete with brands or logos, or feel out of place. Our choice of plain black and white kit is to ensure that items can be easily found, in a range of outlets, and are affordable for parents. We understand that getting unbranded trainers can be more difficult, therefore we will accept trainers with logos that are small and inconspicuous.

The school uniform policy as a whole is an integral part of our school identity, and parents sign a home school agreement when children commence their education at Bloxwich Academy Primary which includes a commitment to adhere to a number of school policies. It is important that children dress the part and are ready for life in the real world where employers will expect them to dress appropriately, in clothing 'fit for purpose'.

Before the pandemic, children used to bring in kit separately and change in school. Advice given at the time was to wear clothes once and then wash, it lightened the load by reducing the number of clothes children would wear in a day. After the pandemic we realised that, by asking children to attend in their PE kit, we could utilise the time children would usually take to change by extending their PE sessions or squeezing in some extra learning. It also reduced the risk of children leaving items behind or losing them all together.

We understand that for some parents whose children are in after school clubs or have swimming on certain days, the number of days children are expected to wear PE kit out numbers the days they are in uniform. Going forward, children who only have a sport/physically active session after school, or have a swimming session within the school day will no longer need to attend in PE kit. They should attend in normal school uniform and bring their PE kit or swimming clothes with them to change into.

I hope this helps to further explain our policy. If you are struggling to find correct kit or need financial assistance, please contact the office and we will assist or signpost wherever possible.

Yours sincerely,

Ms S. Shepherd  
Headteacher



Bloxwich Academy Primary  
Bloxwich Lane  
Bloxwich, Walsall  
West Midlands  
WS2 7JT



01922 710 226



Bloxwich Academy



@bloxwich\_academy



primarypostbox@bloxwichacademy.co.uk

