



## Uniform Policy for Athea National School

### Introduction

The Athea National School Uniform Policy supports children to be well-presented at all times while also ensuring uniform costs are kept to a minimum for parents. Our school uniform policy reflects recent initiatives by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) to promote cost-cutting for parents regarding school uniforms. In line with DES guidelines, our school uniform includes: generic rather than branded clothing, availability of sew-on school crests and colours (grey and maroon) which are available from a range of suppliers and stores.

### Aim

The aim of this policy is to clarify what uniform should be worn and when.

### School Uniform

Athea National School has always valued the importance of its school uniform. It enhances every child's association with the school and provides our students with a strong sense of identity and belonging.

Following a review, it has been decided that for the 2020 /21 school year

- Every student attending Athea National School **can wear the complete formal school uniform or the complete school tracksuit option or both** depending on the pupil's and parent's preference.
- **The school authorities will not allocate days for the wearing of the formal and tracksuit options, but will allow the parents to make this decision provided a few basic guidelines are adhered to and respected.** These guidelines are listed on the next page.

In light of COVID-19 pupils may wear base layers underneath their uniform due to the extra ventilation in the rooms.

### **Athea National School's formal school uniform comprises of:**

- Dark Grey trousers / pinafore skirt
- Maroon V-neck jumper / cardigan with school crest.
- Grey (boys)/ White (girls) shirt
- Grey & maroon grey school tie
- Grey socks / tights
- Sensible shoes

### **Athea National School's tracksuit comprises of:**

- Maroon tracksuit top with school crest
- Grey (boys)/ White (girls) Polo shirt.
- Maroon tracksuit bottoms
- Grey socks
- Runners

***\* For the months of May, June and September, school tracksuit or school shorts may be worn to school***

### **Where can I purchase the Athea National School uniform for my child?**

For the 2020 -21 school year, families now have two options.

- Pre crested formal uniforms and tracksuits are still available and can be purchased in **Little Rascals** in Church Street in Abbeyfeale. (068) 31985
- Plain grey or maroon items for the formal uniform (v neck jumper, cardigan, trousers, pinafore skirts,) and for the tracksuit (navy round neck top and tracksuit bottoms) can be purchased in **Dunnes Stores, Marks and Spencers and Shaws Department Stores.**

### **Please note also the following guidelines.**

- The highest standard of personal appearance will be expected at all times.
- The school will expect that all children's uniforms will be clean and tidy at all times. Students will be expected to wear the complete uniform. Parents are encouraged to have the uniform washed at the weekends so that the children are not without their uniforms during the week.
- All torn items should be repaired or replaced as soon as possible.
- Children will be required to wear the school tracksuit to school on PE days, when going swimming or playing after school sports.
- The school hopes that all students representing the school at special events such as quizzes, curricular presentations and awards ceremonies will wear the full formal school uniform etc.
- Hair should be neat and tidy.
- Eye shadow, make up or nail polish are not permitted.

- Stud earrings, worn in the lower lobe of the ear and watches are the only jewellery permitted.
- Children should have their names clearly marked on their uniforms, coats and other personal belongings.

#### **Rationale and Values underlying the Uniform Policy:**

1. Establish an identity
2. Equality
3. Encourage good dress code
4. Setting standards for secondary school

#### **Desired outcomes of Uniform Policy:**

1. Sense of belonging created
2. Sense of equality increased
3. Standardisation of the dress code
4. Neat and tidy students
5. Cost effective for parents

#### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

##### **Pupils and Parents:**

- The correct uniform is worn at all times
- Pupils should be neat and tidy in their appearance
- All items belonging to a pupil should be clearly labelled
- Parents must send a note to explain incomplete uniform or any deviation from the uniform policy

##### **School staff:**

- Teachers will monitor school uniforms regularly
- Uniform checks by the Principal / Deputy Principal will take place regularly
- Deviation from the uniform may merit a note from the class teacher
- In consultation with the class teacher, the school management will use its discretion in supporting pupils towards complying with the Uniform Policy
- Any families experiencing difficulties may talk with the School Principal for assistance regarding uniform related purchases. All such discussions will be treated in the strictest confidence

#### **Review:**

Please note the policy is due to be reviewed in June 2022.

#### **Ratification/Communication**

The policy was reviewed and ratified by the Board of Management in 2021.

**Signed:** *Marie Gleeson*

**Date:** 18/05/21

**(Chairperson B.o.M)**