

CLIFTONVILLE PRIMARY & PRE-SCHOOL

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Head Teacher: Ms Claire Whichcord



June 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are excited to share an important update about our school uniform, which will support our continued development of play and wellbeing across the school.

As part of our move towards **OPAL (Outdoor Play and Learning)**, we will be introducing **active uniform** for all pupils from September.

The active uniform is the essentially the same as our current PE uniform with some additional options should you wish. The uniform will consist of:

- Plain **black** joggers, leggings, jersey trousers, or shorts
- Plain white polo shirt
- Plain blue school jumper or cardigan (with or without logo)
- **Black** trainers

Optional items:

- Black skort (skirt with shorts built in)
- Blue gingham shorts and top (summer)
- Blue summer dress with shorts underneath (summer)

As there will no longer be a requirement to purchase a separate PE kit, we believe this change will be more cost-effective for families. We ask for your support in ensuring that your child follows the new uniform expectations. We do understand you may still have uniform items that your children haven't grown out of, so we are introducing the new policy over the course of the next academic year. By the end of the transition period, July 2027, all pupils are expected to be in full compliance with the policy, and this will be consistently applied across the school. For example, no alternative colours of trainers or branded items of clothing (other than school logo) will be accepted. All items are readily available in supermarkets or online.

Why are we making this change?

Our OPAL approach recognises that high-quality play is essential for children's physical health, social development, creativity, and emotional wellbeing. To fully benefit from this, children need clothing that is:

- Comfortable and practical
- Suitable for a wide range of outdoor activities
- Able to get messy without concern



An active uniform ensures children can engage fully in play opportunities throughout the day without restriction.

What are the benefits?

We believe this change will bring significant advantages for both children and families:

☒ **Better for learning and wellbeing**

Children will be able to move more freely, be active, and take part in a wider variety of play experiences.

☒ **Supports sensory needs**

Many children benefit from softer, more flexible clothing that reduces discomfort and allows them to regulate more effectively throughout the day.

☒ **More affordable for families**

The new uniform is designed to be simpler and more cost-effective, reducing the need for expensive or branded items.

☒ **Practical for everyday school life**

The focus is on durability and ease of washing, recognising that active play can be messy—and that's a good thing!

We are incredibly excited about the positive impact this will have on children's play, wellbeing, and overall school experience. Thank you for your continued support as we develop our OPAL journey.

Yours sincerely

Andrea Frith, Assistant Head Teacher



