

# THE GROVE PRIMARY SCHOOL



## UNIFORM & HAIR POLICY

ADOPTED BY THE SCHOOL GOVERNING BODY ON: 28 MARCH 2023

PRINCIPAL: Candice Joshua

CHAIRPERSON: Anna Grimsrud

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## INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

The school uniform is an important part of The Grove culture, serving to unite learners and create a common school identity. Wearing the school uniform gives the child a sense of belonging and a chance to show their pride in the school.

The principles underpinning the development of the uniform policy include, but are not limited to; health, safety, affordability, durability, comfort, simplicity, pride and impartiality.

This policy is in line with the values upheld by the Constitution of South Africa (1996) and aligned with the South African Schools Act (1996) and Government Notice No 173 of 23 February 2006 – National Guidelines on School Uniforms. Further, we acknowledge the ruling of the Competition Commission of SA and consider this ruling and affordability when signing contracts with providers.

## IMPLEMENTATION

There will be a phased implementation of this policy starting in April 2023.

Phase 1: Between April 2023-December 2024, learners can wear uniform options outlined in this policy or the previous policy (see Annex 1). Uniform options cannot be mixed.

Phase 2: From January 2024, learners must wear the outlined uniform below for all sports matches. During the school day, the options outlined in this policy or the previous policy (see Annex 1) are allowed during the school day and uniform options cannot be mixed.

Phase 3: From January 2025, only the options in this policy are permitted at the school.

## UNIFORM CONTEXT

1. The uniform serves to unite learners as a Grove community. It is required that families who enrol their children at The Grove ensure that their child/children's uniforms comply with the policy and are complete, clean and tidy.
2. In order to reduce costs, items of uniform specific to the school, are available for purchase from the school only. Quality second hand uniforms are also sold from the school shop.
3. Funds are earmarked for learners who require financial assistance to purchase uniforms.
4. Learners attending school dressed not in accordance with the uniform policy, are expected to produce a letter of explanation from their family. This applies only to temporary situations with a short, fixed term.
5. Permanent departures from the prescribed school uniform will be considered upon written request to the School Governing Body (SGB) with documentation in support of that request.
6. The school acknowledges the right of families to make particular modifications to the uniform to comply with their religious or cultural beliefs. This is a constitutional right and in line with the values of the school which seeking to be inclusive and to promote diversity. Parents intending to make such modifications are asked to discuss this with the principal and to formally communicate this to the SGB in writing, both as a courtesy and to allow the school to better support the learner and their family.
7. Non-compliance will be managed in terms of the school Code of Conduct.

## THE SCHOOL UNIFORM

1. All uniforms are gender neutral.
2. Grove Foundation Phase learners (Grades 1-3) have an informal uniform that is also worn for physical education with the addition of training shoes/takkies. There is also a uniform for swimming. The Foundation Phase learners do not have a formal uniform.

*Table 1: The Grove school uniform – Foundation phase (Grades 1-3)*

| <b>FOUNDATION PHASE UNIFORM</b>   |
|---|
| <p>In summer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Navy short-sleeve Grove golf shirt</li> <li>● Navy blue shorts or skirt</li> <li>● Short navy-blue socks</li> </ul> |

- Black school shoes or black school sandals (with no socks)
- Grove hat/cap
- Navy jersey with school badge

In winter

The uniform is the same plus:

- Navy short-sleeve Grove golf shirt can be replaced with a navy long-sleeve Grove golf shirt
- Full grove tracksuit can be added (if tracksuit pants are worn, the shorts or skorts underneath are optional)
- No sandals are permitted

*For physical education:*

Same as above but with training shoes/takkies instead of black school shoes or sandals.

*For swimming:*

- a black swimming costume (speedo or swimmers)
- Rash vest / black bather / Grove sun suit (optional)
- Grove swimming cap or plain black cap.

There is no specific PE uniform (other than swimming) for the Foundation phase

3. Grove Intersen Phase learners (Grades 4-7) have a formal uniform and a physical education uniform (including for swimming) (Table 2). Intersen Phase learners can wear the tracksuit in winter for school sport and PE.

*Table 2: The Grove school uniform – Intersen phase (Grades 4-7)*

| Option 1  | Option 2   |
|---|--|
| <p>Summer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue dress</li> <li>• Black school shoes</li> <li>• Short navy-blue socks</li> <li>• Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> </ul> <p>Winter</p> <p>The uniform is the same except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navy-blue knee-high socks or navy-blue tights (instead of short socks)</li> </ul> | <p>Summer</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey shorts</li> <li>• Short sleeve open neck white shirt</li> <li>• Navy-blue short socks</li> <li>• Black school shoes</li> <li>• Grove hat or cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> </ul> <p>Winter</p> <p>The uniform is the same except:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long grey trousers or grey shorts</li> <li>• Navy-blue knee-high socks or navy-blue tights (not footless tights) (instead of short socks)</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Physical education and school sport</b></p>   |  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navy Grove golf shirt</li> <li>• Shorts or skorts. In winter, tracksuit pants can be worn.</li> </ul>  |  |

- Blue socks with yellow tops
- Training shoes/takkies
- Grove hat/cap
- Grove tracksuit top or rain jacket (optional, as required)

*For swimming:*

- a black swimming costume (speedo or swimmers)
- Rash vest / black bather / Grove sun suit (optional)
- Grove swimming cap or plain black cap.

§ Grade 7s may wear the Grove Grade 7 sweatshirt in place of the tracksuit top or navy jersey. However, this is not to be worn when representing the school outside of the normal school day or when a formal uniform option is required.

4. There are specific school uniform requirements for physical education (Table 1-2). All learners must wear their uniform to school and change into their PE clothes at school (PE clothes must be brought to school, not worn to school). For Foundation Phase learners, this means only changing shoes.
5. For all school sports, the Physical Education uniform is to be worn. It is also to be worn for all matches. There may be specific additional uniform requirements for first teams.
6. Shoes worn for physical education and school sport should be simple and functional.
7. All learners must also have a Grove school bag, a small Grove tog bag and a navy-blue book bag. Foundation phase learners will also need a navy-blue chair bag.
8. Art overalls are required for all learners. This can be the navy-blue option that can be bought at the uniform shop, or a loose garment that covers the whole uniform.
9. All clothes must be marked with an initial and surname. The only acceptable proof of ownership for lost items is clearly legible identification. Unmarked items will be kept until the end of each term only and then donated to the second-hand shop.
10. The only jewellery that may be worn is medic-alert discs, watches and a single pair of gold/silver ear-studs.
11. Nail varnish and cosmetics are not allowed.
12. Optional uniform items include: Grove rain jackets, the Grove poncho and the Grove woollen scarf in winter. The jacket and poncho may not be worn indoors.
13. Optional bags include: Grove lunch box and larger tog bags.
14. Learners can wear navy or black beanies and gloves. These items must be removed when entering the school.

## CONDITIONS

- i. Tracksuits must be worn as a whole with the navy Grove golf shirt. A school jersey may be worn under the tracksuit top.
- ii. Sleeves are to be pulled down at all times.
- iii. Grove school scarves may be worn around necks during the school day provided that they do not cause a distraction to learning in any way.
- iv. At the change of seasons, a date is set for the compulsory seasonal uniform switch (Usually, 2-3 weeks into the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> terms, weather dependent.)

## HAIR

The hair policy focuses on safety, tidiness, respect for oneself and others, and pride in our school. The hair policy is gender neutral. Hair styles should be:

- easy to manage and suitable for being at school;
- out of the face so that the child can see properly when working and playing sport;
- clean, neat and tidy, and considerate of others;
- tied up if it hangs over the collar.

Note:

- Hair may not be coloured. Braids must match the natural hair colour.
- No decorative shaved patterns allowed.
- Hair accessories must be plain and simple: hair ties, clips, alic bands, headbands and ribbons may be navy blue, brown or black.

Where necessary, clarification of the policy will be addressed by a designated committee of teachers.

## CASUAL CLOTHING RULES

These rules are for days when casual clothes are worn (“civvies days”). These rules also apply to outings where uniforms are not required and school camps.

- No offensive or distasteful slogans, graphics or images may be displayed.
- Sensible shoes must be worn at all times. No high heeled shoes.
- Hair may be loose, but must be out of the face when working.
- Normal school rules regarding jewellery and make-up are in effect.
- No undergarments to be visible.

- No inappropriately revealing clothing (for example, no visible cleavage, off the shoulder styles, spaghetti strap tops, crop tops).

Casual clothing should be appropriate for primary school. Where necessary, clarification of the policy will be addressed by a designated committee of teachers.

On casual clothing days, learners are expected to bring the appropriate school uniform for PE and sport.

## **PROCESS FOR REVIEW OF THIS POLICY**

The school shall review the existing policy at least one year into the term of each new School Governing Body. If the policy is changed, it will be done in such a way that the rights and views of pupils already learning at the school will be considered and protected. If significant changes are to be made to the policy these changes will be negotiated and phased in over an agreed and reasonable time frame.

## **LEGISLATION**

Acceptance of policy:

Adopted at Claremont on this 23rd day of March 2023.

Signed: ANNA GRIMSRUD

Chair of School Governing Body

CANDICE JOSHUA

Principal

**ANNEX****1**

As outlined above in “Implementation”, the implementation of this policy will be phased. The previous school uniform policy, from June 2022, is as follows:

1. Sets 1 and 2 are the formal school uniforms. Each learner must have the formal summer uniform set, and the formal winter uniform set. Set 3 is an informal option for daily use. All are gender neutral. See Table 1 for details.

*Table 1: The Grove school uniform*

| <b>SUMMER</b>   | <b>WINTER</b>  |
|---|--|
| <p><b>Set 1 (formal)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue dress</li> <li>• White socks</li> <li>• Black school shoes or black school sandals (with no socks)</li> <li>• Grove hat or cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> </ul>   | <p><b>Set 1 (formal)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue dress</li> <li>• Navy-blue knee-high socks or tights</li> <li>• Black school shoes</li> <li>• Grove hat or cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> <li>• Woollen Grove scarf (optional)</li> </ul>  |
| <p><b>Set 2 (formal)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey shorts</li> <li>• White shirt (open-neck short sleeves)</li> <li>• Navy blue knee-high socks or short white socks</li> <li>• Black school shoes or black school sandals (with no socks)</li> <li>• Grove hat or cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> </ul>                                    | <p><b>Set 2 (formal)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Grey shorts or long trousers</li> <li>• White shirt (open-neck long sleeves)</li> <li>• Navy blue knee-high socks or short white socks</li> <li>• Black school shoes</li> <li>• Grove hat or cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> <li>• Grove school tie (optional)*</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Set 3 (informal)</b><br/><b><i>Optional for Foundation phase only</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• White Grove golf shirt</li> <li>• Navy blue shorts or skort</li> <li>• Long blue or short white socks</li> <li>• Black school shoes or black school sandals (with no socks)</li> <li>• Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• Navy jersey with school badge<sup>§</sup></li> </ul> | <p><b>Set 3 (informal)</b><br/><b><i>Optional for all*</i></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Full tracksuit<sup>§</sup></li> <li>• White Grove golf shirt (long or short sleeves)</li> <li>• Long blue or short white socks</li> <li>• Black school shoes</li> <li>• Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• Woollen Grove scarf (optional)</li> </ul>                         |



§ Grade 7s may wear the Grove Grade 7 sweatshirt in place of the tracksuit top or navy jersey. However, this is not to be worn when representing the school outside of the normal school day or when a formal uniform option is required.

\* When a learner is representing the school and is expected to wear a tie, loan ties will be made available

± This informal uniform is not to be worn when representing the school outside of the normal school day (for example, during quizzes, chess tournaments, eisteddfods, choir festivals, etc.)

2. There are also specific school uniform requirements for physical education and school sport (see Table 2).

*Table 2: The Grove uniform for physical education and sport practices*

|   |   |
|---|---|
| <p><b>Grades 1 and 2</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Navy shorts or skort</li> <li>• White Grove golf shirt</li> <li>• Training shoes/takkies – must be predominantly white</li> </ul>   |   |
| <p><b>Grades 3-7</b></p>  |   |
| <p><b>Summer</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue shirt with yellow collar*</li> <li>• Navy shorts or skort</li> <li>• Long navy-blue socks with yellow tops or short white socks</li> <li>• Lace up training shoes/takkies</li> <li>• Grove hat/cap</li> </ul>  | <p><b>Winter</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blue shirt with yellow collar*</li> <li>• Navy shorts or skort</li> <li>• Long navy-blue socks with yellow tops</li> <li>• Lace up training shoes/takkies</li> <li>• Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• Grove tracksuit top or rain jacket</li> </ul> |
| <p><b>Matches</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Cricket</u>: White Grove shirt, blue shorts or skort, yellow top socks, Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• <u>Tennis</u>: White Grove shirt, blue shorts or skort, short white socks Grove hat/cap Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• <u>Netball and Cross Country</u>: Blue shirt with yellow collar, blue shorts or skort, yellow top socks Grove hat/cap</li> <li>• <u>Soccer and Hockey</u>: Blue shirt with yellow collar, blue shorts or skort, yellow top socks</li> <li>• <u>Swimming</u>: Black swimming costume, Grove swimming cap</li> <li>• <u>1st Teams</u>: Kit as prescribed by relevant coaches</li> </ul> |   |

**School swimming**

- Black swimming costume - speedo or swimmers with or without a rash vest / black bather / Grove sun suit
- Grove swimming cap

\* Grade 7's may wear light blue Grade 7 shirt.