

Gretton Primary Academy

Changing Policy

Reviewed: September 2023

To be reviewed again: September 2026

Rationale

It is acknowledged that the vast majority of people who work with children are safe to do so and do so in the correct manner.

Changing for PE can cause anxiety for some pupils, can influence their perception of the subject and determine whether it is an enjoyable and positive experience. The concern caused by changing can influence a pupil's participation and lead to a variety of avoidance strategies. In light of this, children from Y1-Y6 will come to school wearing their PE uniform.

All staff should follow the policy to minimise the risk to themselves and the child.

All pupils taking part in PE lessons should be changed into the correct uniform to maintain hygiene throughout the day, and safety during lessons. If pupils are not able to take part in P.E. lessons, verbal or a written explanation should be given by parents. Earrings are not to be worn in any circumstance, nor is tape to be applied.

Changing at Gretton

All pupils will be treated with respect and fairness and staff will make adequate and sensitive arrangements which will take into account the needs and individual preferences of pupils based on religion, culture and gender.

Children from Y1-Y6 will come to school wearing their school PE kit, and wear this all day.

In EYFS, children will get changed in their own classroom with their class teacher or PE practitioner supervising. If there is a P.E. coach in that day, with limited knowledge of the children, the class teacher or LSA to support whilst children are getting changed. When changing at the beginning of the school day and at the end of the school day, external blinds will be closed to ensure pupils are not seen by other adults on school site.

Parents will be made aware of the changing arrangements at the start of the year and any issues that arise from the changing procedure will be discussed with them on an individual basis. This will be conducted by the class teacher in the first instance and then if pupils continue to have issues it will be directed to a member of senior leadership.

Pupils who have a concern about a member of staff will be listened to and followed up appropriately by the DSL and the head teacher. Any allegations must be reported promptly to the head teacher and an appropriate investigation must take place.

Staff Supervision

Both pupils and staff should show respect towards each other and pupils should maintain a quiet and calm changing area.

If there is an occasion where staff notice bruising or other markings, then it should be reported immediately and discussed with a DSL.

Pupils needing assistance

Pupils will be encouraged to be as independent as possible when getting changed, however due to age or disability this may not be possible. Therefore, any help must be done in open site and when involving tights or under clothing staff should be careful.

In key stage 1, pupils will rely on staff to assist, therefore it is down to the judgement of the class teacher following the school's procedures.

Off-site

During swimming lessons (Y5 plus), children to get changed in same gender changing rooms, private from the public. If a pupil's awareness of their bodies results in the child feeling uncomfortable then alternative provision will be put in place e.g. getting changed a single cubicle. Parent permission must be provided for this.