









What's going on this week?

A school has banned a haircut known as the 'Meet me at McDonald's' and warned pupils they may be sent home or taught separately until their hair is restyled. In a letter to parents, Great Yarmouth Charter Academy's headmaster Barry Smith listed variations on the style often known as 'Meet me at McDonald's' among seven unacceptable haircuts for boys. He said families of any child whose haircut was deemed unsuitable for school would be contacted directly.

Main question:
Do appearances matter?
Listen, think, share

-  Look at the poster and explain that a secondary school have banned a haircut which the head teacher has called extreme. Unless the pupils change their hair, they are not allowed to their usual lessons. Do you think this is fair?
-  Do you know what the rules are in your school in relation to the dress code and uniform?
-  Read through the different rules regarding uniforms and appearance from the assembly resource. Which do you think are fair and which do you think are unfair? Talk about why. Which do you think are good rules and discuss why.
-  Talk about other times when what you look like might be important. Can you think of any jobs? E.g. police officer, being in the army etc. Why do you think these jobs require uniforms or a distinctive appearance?
-  Why do you think schools have rules about how you look and dress? Do you think it's good that schools have rules about appearance or do you think what you wear and how you style your hair shouldn't matter?
-  Can you think of times in your everyday life when what you look like does matter? Why?

Reflection




Though we should always make our decisions based on who people are and their actions, it is also important to consider and understand the reasons behind why we may be expected to look a certain way.



KS1 Focus

Question:
Is what we look like important?

Listen, think, share

-  Talk about the outfits that we wear to school. Why do we have a uniform? Talk about the fact that we all look the same when we are wearing our uniform. Do we think school uniforms are a good idea? Talk about adults who might wear uniforms to work, e.g. police officer, doctors – do we think it's important they wear these uniforms? Why?
-  Talk about other ways we look different, e.g. hair colour, size etc. talk about how some things we can change like the clothes we wear but there are lots of things we can't as we may have been born that way.
-  Look at the pictures from the KS1 resource. Do we know what any of them are? They are a rose, sunflower, pine tree and cactus. What do we know about them? Do we think any of them are more beautiful than any of the others? Why? Read the story from the KS1 resource to the children. Ask them again which they think is the most beautiful? Does it matter what they look like? Talk about why the cactus able to save everyone in the end?

Reflection





We might look at other people and make judgements about them because of what they look like. It's important to get to know people before we form an opinion about them.



KS2 Focus

Question:
Is it ever right to judge someone on what they look like?

Listen, think, share

-  Make a list of situations where we wear specialist outfits or clothes. E.g. swimming costumes for swimming, leotard for dance. Then talk about different occasions and what we might wear. Then move on to thinking about other areas of our appearance and when we might judge others. If we are honest, Can we think of a time when we have been judged by what we look like?
-  Can we think of time when we have been judged by what we look like? Has anyone been judged by their age, height, colour, religion?
-  Do we think this is fair? Can we think of any times when it is ok to judge someone on how they look?
-  Read through both of the scenarios from the KS2 resource, do you think people might be judged on their appearance at each one? Do you think it would be fair to judge them? What reasons do you think they might have been judged? Could you say for certain that the appearances of the people in each photo matter? Why?

Reflection

It's important to not judge someone on their appearance alone. You may never know anyone's story or why they have made the choice to look the way they do.



Picture News

KS2 Cross-Curricular Ideas

English: The school uniform debate! Ask the children to consider points both for and against wearing school uniform. Use these and the video found in 'This Week's Useful Videos' to either have a debate, write a persuasive speech or create a discussion text.

Maths: Ask the children to think about the physical appearances that they have no control over such as height, shoe size, handspan. Use these to collect data. Find the mean, mode, median and range of the data. Compare with other classes and year groups. Ask the children to display their data for someone else in the class to interpret.

Art: Allow the children to select the materials and equipment they choose to create a picture showing themselves wearing something they feel expresses who they are. Children can share their designs and explain why they identify with their picture.

History: Often hairstyles are linked to fashion. Explain that fashion changes over time and so do hairstyles. Ask the children to research fashionable hairstyles over the last 100 years. If possible, ask them to bring photos from home of their parents and grandparents when they were young to compare with one another. They could also compare the clothes they wore and even school uniforms!

PE: At the beginning of your PE session have a brief discussion about why you ask the children to put on a PE kit. Consider reasons such as for safety, comfort and hygiene.



Picture News

KS1 Cross-Curricular Ideas

English: Ask the children to consider the types of clothes they wear to do certain things such as go to school, take part in a sports club, go to a wedding. Choose one of their favourite outfits and describe it to a partner. Consider the colour, material, length, what it feels like. Children could record their description using pictures, words and sentences.

Maths: Look at the different ways people in the class wear their hair. Ask the children to think about how they could group the hair styles. Spikey, tied up, short etc. Are there any other ways hair can be grouped? Consider hair colour. Show the children how to organise the information for example using a Venn diagram (hair colour and style).

Science: Ask the children to think about the way they look and the things that they cannot control. Consider things such as eye colour, height, leg length etc. Use this opportunity to name and label parts of the body and say which part of the body is associated with each sense.

Role-play: Provide the children with opportunity to explore, dress-up and role-play jobs that require people to wear a uniform such as police, firefighter, nurse, shopkeeper. Consider why it is important for them to wear a uniform.

Art: Ask the children to imagine they were the headteacher. Draw a picture of the uniform they would ask their children to wear. Allow time for the children to share their picture and explain their choices.



Picture News

This Week's Useful Websites

This week's news story

<http://bbc.in/2oh4GV0>

This Week's Useful Videos

Should pupils wear uniforms debate

<http://bit.ly/2EUagaw>