

Uniform Policy

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind.

Organisation

Early Years

In the Early Years children wear:

- Bottle green jogging bottoms
- Bottle green sweatshirt **with the school logo**
- Yellow polo shirt **with the school logo**

In the summer pupils may choose to wear bottle green shorts.

Early years pupils can wear trainers or shoes.

Sweatshirts and polo shirts (with the school logo) are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers. Please see our website for more information or enquire at the office.

Shorts, jogging bottoms and socks are also available to buy from these sources but you may find it cheaper to buy these items elsewhere.

Year 1 to Year 6

Boys – winter

- Long grey trousers
- White shirt MUST be worn with the yellow/bottle green school tie
- Bottle green V-neck sweater **with the school logo**
- Socks: plain grey or black

Girls – winter

- Grey pinafore dress, or grey skirt, or grey trousers
- White shirt to be worn with the yellow/bottle green school tie
- Bottle green cardigan or V-neck sweater **with the school logo**

- Socks: grey or white

Boys – summer

- Short grey trousers (this is an option in hotter, summer weather)
- Short sleeved white shirt **with a school tie**
- Bottle green V-neck sweater **with the school logo**
- Socks: plain grey or black

Girls – summer

- Green and white summer dress (this is an option in hotter weather)
- Bottle green cardigan or V-neck sweater **with the school logo**
- Socks: grey or white
- **Please note:** pupils may wear a short sleeved white shirt **with a school tie**, if preferred.

All pupils should not wear visible, colourful tops under the school shirt. Uniform (with the school logo) and school ties are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers.

Skirts, shirts, trousers, shorts, jogging bottoms, socks and tights are also available to buy from these suppliers, but you may find it cheaper to buy these items elsewhere.

Shoes, Socks and Tights

All pupils must wear black shoes, or enclosed sandals. Pupils must not wear boots, trainers or open-toe sandals. Shoes should be flat heeled.

Socks must be either ankle, or knee socks (not shoe liners). Girls should wear only grey or white socks to school (no bright colours, patterns or logos please). In colder weather girls are able to wear grey tights to school (no nylon tights please). Boys should wear only plain grey or black socks.

PE Uniform (for Years 1 to 6)

All pupils (Years 1 to 6) must wear:

- Bottle green shorts
- Green or plain black joggers (for outdoor PE lessons in cold weather)
- Yellow polo shirt **with the school logo**
- Trainers or plimsolls (during some lessons in the hall pupils may be asked to work in bare feet)

Please note: Pupils in Early Years do not have a separate PE kit.

PE kits should be brought into school on a Monday and taken home every Friday. PE uniform should be kept in a draw string gym bag (these bags are available to buy from the school or you may wish to buy one from elsewhere). Any child who does not have the full school P.E kit will be unable to take part in PE lessons. Each pupil should have their own P.E kit and should not share with other siblings in the school.

The yellow polo shirt with the school logo is available to buy from our school uniform suppliers. Other items are also available from these suppliers, but you may find it cheaper purchasing them from elsewhere.

All clothing must be labelled with your child's name.

Book Bags

It is **compulsory** that all pupils from Lower Early Years to Year 6 have a school book bag. This is to save parents the expense of buying more expensive bags (that often take up more room in our small cloakroom areas). These book bags will be used by your child throughout their time at St. Mary's to bring home reading books, letters, homework tasks and pencil cases. Book bags are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers.

Jackets and Coats

All pupils should bring a coat to school in periods of cold or wet weather. Jackets and coats do not have to be a particular colour (although plain colours, without big/bright logos or patterns, are encouraged). If you wish to purchase a school jacket (with or without the school logo) they are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers.

Jewellery and Watches

Pupils may wear appropriate watches, for which they accept responsibility. A pair of plain stud earrings may be worn (although the school would prefer that earrings are not worn to school). Earrings and watches must be removed by the pupil prior to PE lessons (including swimming). No other jewellery may be worn and pupils accept responsibility for any jewellery including earrings. The school does not accept responsibility for any watches or jewellery.

Hair

St. Mary's School does not permit children to have extreme haircuts, or styles that could serve as a distraction to other children. This includes brightly coloured hair (which is not of a natural colour). Pupils are not permitted to come into school with very short, shaved hair (this includes hair shaved across the entire head at Grade 1 or below, and hair shaved in part at Grade 0). Similarly pupils should not come into school with letters/numbers/patterns shaved in their hair. Pupils with long hair will be required to tie it back if it obstructs their learning, and in all cases where it could be a health and safety issue i.e. during PE lessons, cooking or scientific experiments.

Pupils should only wear plain coloured hair bands, beads and hair clips that are in keeping with the school uniform colours (green, black or grey). For health and safety reasons we ask all children with long hair and beads to tie their hair back.

Make-up, Nails and Temporary Tattoos

The school does not permit children to wear make-up, or false nails. Similarly natural nails should be kept short (no longer than the child's finger tip) and they should not be decorated with nail varnish, or nail art. Long nails are a health and safety issue, for the child wearing them, and also other children in school. Pupils should also not wear any visible, temporary tattoos to school.

Water Bottles

Pupils are allowed to drink water in class from a transparent water bottle. This bottle can be made of coloured plastic (with some decorations/labels) as long as the contents can still be seen. They should not be filled with juice, fizzy drinks etc. (only water). We ask that these bottles have sports style lids to help prevent any spills and they should be labelled with your child's name so they can be easily identified. They should be filled with water before school and then topped up during break times. If a pupil does not bring in a water bottle (as described above) they will still have access to fresh water during all break times.

The Role of Parents

We ask all parents, who send their children to our school, to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Head Teacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the Head Teacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

The Role of Staff

It is the role of all staff to ensure that pupils are adhering to our School Uniform Policy. If a member of staff notices that a child's uniform/appearance is not in accordance with this Policy then they will give the child a verbal reminder (in the first instance). As a part of our 'Monday Morning Briefing' staff will discuss issues of concern, including pupils who are not dressing according to the Uniform Policy. If a child is repeatedly seen not following this Policy a 'Uniform Policy Reminder' letter will be sent home, informing parents of the uniform that is needed. Parents/carers are required to sign the reply slip attached to indicate they have read the letter. If a 'Uniform Policy Reminder' letter has been sent home, and a child still continues to ignore this Policy, the child's class teacher (or a member of the Senior Management Team) will arrange to discuss the issue with the child's parent/carer directly.

The Role of Governors

The governing body supports the Head Teacher in implementing the School Uniform Policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the Head Teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our School Uniform Policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Reminder: School Uniform Policy

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

Name of child: _____ Year: _____

Dear Parent/Carer,

In accordance with our School Uniform Policy, please ensure your child:

A copy of this Policy is available to view on our school website.

Please sign the reply slip below (to acknowledge that your child has brought home this letter) and return it to your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Thank you for your support in advance,

Signed: _____ (Member of staff) Date: _____

Reminder: School Uniform Policy

Name of child: _____ Year: _____

I acknowledge that my child has brought home the 'School Uniform Policy' letter.

Signed: _____ (Parent/Carer) Date: _____