



St. Mary's Catholic Primary School

*'With Jesus, we learn together
through faith and love'*

School Uniform Policy

Statement of intent

St. Mary's Catholic Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

1. Legal framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'

2. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's '[Cost of school uniforms](#)' guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.

- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

Staff members are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

3. Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents.

- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.
- LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings. The Early years uniform can be worn at a P.E. uniform when the children go into Year 1.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. This is the school jumper, polo shirt for P.E. and the school tie.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

4. Equality principles

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be

met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

5. School uniform supplier

Our current school uniform supplier is:

Our two uniform suppliers are Myclothing and PMG, below are the links to their websites:

MyClothing

<https://myclothing.com/ueslink/6647.school?t=1591175814860>

PMG

http://pmgschoolwear.co.uk/school/stmaryscatholicprimary_uxbridge

The school will retender the uniform contract every five years starting 2022-2023, whether changes to the uniform are made or not. The governing body will be able to demonstrate how uniform is procured at the best value for money. The headteacher will work to ensure that the items are procured as cheaply as possible without compromising on the quality, e.g. by requesting standard-style items from the supplier rather than more intricate and unique designs.

The school also sells second hand uniform at very low prices to support parents with the cost of uniform.

<https://app.uniformd.co.uk/items/153>

Uniformed is a website that sells second hand uniform that is of good quality.

Any parent who is struggling to purchase uniform can speak to Miss Shevlin confidentially and the school can look at ways of helping the parent with purchasing the uniform through grant etc.

6. Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box in the school office. All lost property is retained for two weeks and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

6. The Uniform Requirements

Early Years

In the Early Years children wear:

- Bottle green jogging bottoms
- Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan **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 black trainers or shoes with no logos. We ask that all children wear velcro shoes (No Laces) for safety purposes.

Socks should be plain grey, black or white.

Shorts, jogging bottoms and socks are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers but you may find it cheaper to buy these items elsewhere – e.g. local supermarket.

Please refer to the rest of the policy concerning the policy on hair, jewellery and any form of make up or nail varnish and spare clothes policy.

When Early Years children go into Year 1 they can use their Early Years uniform as a P.E. kit.

Key Stage One and Two Uniform (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.

Spare clothes

Children in EYFS and KS1 are required to bring in a bag of spare school clothes that they will keep on their peg in the classroom. This is because they are more likely to have accidents where they will need a change of clothes. Please ensure the bag is a named plain, drawstring bag with one string, or a named plain carrier bag.

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. Children can wear their Early Years Uniform as a P.E. kit when they go into Year 1

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.

Book Bag

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 waterproof 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) No hoodies should be worn to school. 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 basic watches to help them tell the time, for which they and their parents accept responsibility. No watches in Early Years please.

Children are not allowed to wear any watches which have cellular, bluetooth or Wi-fi connectivity. They cannot wear any device with a recording capability or the ability to take photographs. No watches/electronic items are allowed that enable pupils to communicate with other mobile devices whilst they are in school.

A pair of plain stud earrings may be worn (although the school would prefer that earrings are not worn to school). No child should wear loop earrings. 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 lost or damaged.

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.

Exceptions to the policy

The only exceptions to the policy will be made on medical grounds with written information provided by the parents or doctors.

7. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed every two years or sooner if suppliers change.



