



Mount Carmel

R.C. HIGH SCHOOL



Uniform Policy

Last Review: July 2026 / Richard Foster

Next Review: June 2027 / Richard Foster

A Family of Faith & Learning

School Uniform at Mount Carmel

At Mount Carmel, our aspiration is to cultivate an environment where every student feels included and part of the Mount Carmel family of faith and learning. High standards of uniform and personal appearance help to create a sense of belonging to our family. Our uniform policy is designed to reflect the core principles of dignity, respect, and community, which are central to our faith and educational mission.

Catholic social teachings emphasise the inherent dignity of every person, the importance of community and participation, and the call to live in solidarity with others. These principles guide our approach to uniform, ensuring that our school is a place where every student feels valued, respected, and supported.

Dignity of the Human Person: Dressing with Purpose and Respect

We believe that every student is created in the image and likeness of God and therefore possesses an inherent dignity. Our uniform policy is a visible recognition of this belief. By requiring a smart and consistent standard of dress, we encourage students to present themselves with a sense of self-worth and to see the same God-given dignity in their peers. Insisting on high standards is not about conformity for its own sake but about fostering an environment where everyone is **valued for who they are**, rather than what they wear. This allows the **unique character and talents of each student to shine through, unhindered by the distractions of fashion trends or economic disparities**.

Community and Participation: A Visible Sign of Belonging

Our school is a faith community where every member is invited to contribute to our common life. The uniform is a powerful symbol of this community. It is a **visual representation that we are one body**, united in our shared mission and values. High standards of uniform ensure that this symbol is worn with pride and respect, reinforcing a sense of **belonging and mutual responsibility**. When students are **dressed smartly and consistently, it strengthens their active participation in the life of the school, creating a disciplined and focused environment where all can flourish**.

Solidarity and the Common Good: Promoting a Just and Caring School

Catholic Social Teaching calls us to stand in solidarity with one another and to work for the common good. **Our uniform policy is a practical application of this principle**. By removing the potential for competition and judgment based on clothing, a **strictly enforced uniform promotes a spirit of solidarity among students from all backgrounds**. This fosters a more **just and equitable** environment where the **focus is on learning, fellowship, and service** to others. The high standards we expect are a collective undertaking for the well-being of all, reminding us that our individual choices have an impact on the entire school community and that by working together, we create a positive and supportive atmosphere for everyone to thrive.

Standards

Insisting on high standards is not about conformity for its own sake but about fostering an environment where everyone is **valued for who they are**, rather than what they wear. This allows the **unique character and talents of each student to shine through, unhindered by the distractions of fashion trends or economic disparities**. For this reason, we have clear expectations about **jewellery, personal appearance and hair styles**.

We do however understand the rising cost of purchasing school uniform and have restricted the number of branded items to a minimum. Other uniform items are generic and can be purchased from a variety of suppliers or from a local charity shop that stocks school uniform (details below). Please refer to the tables below to identify those branded and generic items.

- Uniform is available from [Abbey Street Shopping Centre](#), Accrington and from [Whittakers Schoolwear](#)
- Uniform items can also be acquired, dependent on availability from the [Heritage Charity Shop](#) in the Arndale Centre, Accrington.
- Donations of good quality outgrown uniform are also welcome to this charity shop, either taken directly to Heritage or dropped off at school. Thank you



Girls (all required items)	
Blazer	Black blazer with school badge (branded item)
Skirt or Trousers	Knee length stitched down pleated skirt - slate grey (generic item) Slate Grey conventional style trousers (not 'skinny' fit - generic item)
Jumper	Black jumper with gold stripe detail (optional - branded item)

Tie	Mount Carmel year group tie. (Pupils keep the same colour tie for 5 years)
Shirt	Long or short sleeved white blouse with formal collar (generic item)
Socks or Tights	Either black knee-high socks or black opaque tights (generic item)
Shoes	Traditional sensible low heeled black school shoes – training shoes, fashion boots or pumps must not be worn (generic item)
Hijab	Girls who choose to wear a Hijab must wear the standard Mount Carmel Hijab or a plain black one. Mount Carmel Hijab's are available from the reprographics office in school (optional branded item).
Boys	
Blazer	Black blazer with school badge (branded item)
Trousers	<u>Slate grey</u> , conventional tailored trousers (generic item)
Jumper	Black jumper with gold stripe detail (optional - branded item)
Tie	Mount Carmel year group tie. (Pupils keep the same colour tie for 5 years)
Shirt	Long or short sleeve white shirt with formal collar (generic item)
Socks	Plain black or grey socks (generic item)
Shoes	Traditional sensible low heeled black school shoes – training shoes, boots or pumps must not be worn (generic item)

Girl's P.E. Kit	Boy's P.E. Kit
Required Kit	Required Kit
Royal blue with yellow trim short sleeve t-shirt (branded item)	Royal blue with yellow trim short sleeve t-shirt (branded item)
Royal blue shorts (branded item)	Royal blue shorts (branded item)
Yellow football socks (branded item)	Yellow football socks (branded item)
Optional Kit:	Optional Kit:
White ankle socks (generic item)	White ankle socks (generic item)
Navy blue base layer (generic item)	Navy blue base layer (generic item)
Navy blue leggings (branded item)	Navy blue tracksuit pants (branded item)
Navy blue tracksuit pants (branded item)	Hooded sweatshirt (branded item)
Hooded sweatshirt (branded item)	Blade performance top (branded item)
Blade performance top (branded item)	
Pupils representing the school at football must wear:	Pupils representing the school at football must wear:
Shin pads (generic item)	Shin pads (generic item)
Football boots (generic item)	Football boots (generic item)
Royal blue with yellow trim short sleeved t-shirt (branded item)	Royal blue with yellow trim short sleeved t-shirt (branded item)
Yellow football socks (branded item)	Yellow football socks (branded item)



P.E. Kit

Mount Carmel's P.E. kit is available to buy from [Abbey Street Shopping Centre](#), Accrington and from [Whittakers Schoolwear](#)

No aerosol deodorants are allowed in school and students who are not participating in P.E. lessons should still bring their full P.E. kit into school as they may be asked to umpire/referee.

Outdoor Clothing

A suitable dark coloured outdoor coat should be worn over the blazer in poor weather conditions. Coats should be placed in a locker on entering the school building.

Multi-coloured tops, sweatshirts, hoodies and expensive fashion coats are not appropriate and are not allowed in any part of the school grounds. Headgear of any type is not allowed to be worn in school.

Jewellery

Wrist bands and jewellery are not allowed. Badges on blazers must be school related. Finger rings are not allowed in school for safety reasons. In the interest of safety one pair of small plain ear studs may be worn in the lobe only of the ear. No other piercings are allowed on any part of the body.

Personal Appearance

Make-up, false tan, nail varnish, false nails and false eye lashes are not appropriate for school and will not be allowed.

Haircuts & Hair Accessories

To support our mission to ensure that pupils can enjoy school unhindered by the distraction of fashion trends we expect pupils and parents/carers to ensure that hair styles are as follows.

- Smart and professional
 - Natural hair colours only
 - Natural hair styles only, extremes of length or style are not permitted (unless otherwise agreed on religious, racial or cultural grounds)
 - There should be no lines or patterns cut in to pupil hair
 - Accessories such as bobbles / bows / hair clips should be of one colour.

Summary

At Mount Carmel, we ask for your partnership in upholding our uniform policy, as it is integral to our identity and your child's success. From a faith perspective, the uniform is a visible symbol of our Catholic values, promoting the God-given dignity of each person and uniting all students in a spirit of solidarity and community. Insisting on high standards of personal appearance instils a sense of pride, mutual respect, and readiness to learn, creating the purposeful and disciplined environment expected of our school. This directly supports academic progress by removing the distractions and social pressures of fashion, fostering an equitable and focused atmosphere where every student can concentrate on their studies, participate fully, and flourish.

If you are unsure of any uniform requirements, please contact school for clarification before making your purchases. If any disputes arise, the headteacher will make the final decision.