



Our Lady Queen of Peace

Catholic High School

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15TH December 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

Review of School Uniform Policy

I am writing to inform you that our school uniform policy is currently under review. This review is part of our ongoing commitment to ensuring that our uniform remains affordable, inclusive, comfortable for students and aligns with the latest Department for Education (DfE) guidance.

Purpose of the Review

The uniform policy is being reviewed to:

- Ensure affordability for all families, in line with updated DfE expectations.
- Prepare for upcoming DfE rules on the number of branded items schools can require.
- Respond to feedback from students and parents about comfort, practicality and availability.
- Make sure our uniform continues to reflect the school's values and identity.

Department for Education Guidelines

Below is a brief outline of the key DfE guidelines regarding school uniforms:

- From **September 2026**, secondary schools should require no more than **four branded items** of uniform/PE kit if one of them is a tie. Plain, generic items must be acceptable if they meet the school's colour and style rules.
- Schools should avoid single-supplier requirements where possible to allow families to shop around at supermarkets, high-street retailers, low-cost outlets and second-hand uniform sales.
- Schools should make second-hand uniform clearly available and publicise how parents can access it to help reduce costs.

Feedback from Parents, Carers and Students

Feedback has highlighted significant concerns about the **compulsory grey skirt and trousers**, particularly regarding:

- Cost and availability
- Quality and durability leading to frequent replacements
- Comfort and suitability for different body shapes
- Difficulties finding the correct waist and length

We are grateful for this feedback, which has shaped the proposed changes below.



In Christ We Grow

'As a learning community, we live out our Mission Statement striving for excellence through caring, sharing and achieving'.

Proposed Changes

In response to the feedback received, the school proposes the following changes:

- **Introduction of black trousers and black skirts**, available from high-street stores.
 - Black trousers should be straight, not tight, and not excessively wide.
 - Black skirts should be pleated, of decent length (**no more than one inch above the knee**), and not rolled up.

Examples of sample uniform items



From **September 2026**, the **branded grey trousers and branded grey skirt** would **no longer form part of the school uniform**. There will be a period of time where students can continue to wear the grey skirt and trousers until they need to be replaced. It is proposed that all Year 7 students starting in Sept 2026 will wear black trousers/skirts from entry to secondary school.

This proposed change in colour is due to the wide variety of grey fabrics available across school uniform suppliers - many of which do not provide an exact match with our school blazer. It is proposed that switching to black trousers/skirts will therefore look smarter than two mismatched versions of grey.

Black items are widely available in many shops at lower prices. More retailers offering these items means better size options. In addition, families can select the quality of the fabric themselves to assist with durability.

Branded Items (maximum of four)

1. Red tie with school logo
2. Grey blazer (Years 7–10) or grey jumper (Year 11) with school logo
3. Red PE top with school logo
4. Black PE shorts with school logo

Non-Branded Items

- **Black trousers** (must not be tight-fitting; leggings, jeans, tracksuit bottoms and jogging pants are not allowed)
- **Pleated black skirt** (decent length and must not be rolled up)
- White shirt/blouse
- Black socks or tights
- PE sport black socks or short white socks
- Plain black shoes
- Trainers (for PE lessons only)
- Optional PE zip top

Rationale for These Changes

The proposed changes aim to:

- Provide **better value for money** for families
- Reduce the number of compulsory branded items
- Increase flexibility by allowing generic, non-branded alternatives
- Ensure uniform items are easy to buy, durable and comfortable
- Support equality by ensuring the uniform is practical, inclusive and affordable for all students
- Maintain a strong sense of belonging and school identity while keeping costs reasonable

How to Take Part in the Consultation

We warmly invite parents and carers to share their views. You can give feedback by:

- Completing the **online survey** using the link provided.

The link is here: [Review of School Uniform Policy – Fill in form](#)

Your feedback is extremely important and will help shape the final uniform policy. The deadline for feedback is **Friday 16th January 2026**.

Key Dates

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| • Consultation opens: | Monday 15th December 2025 |
| • Consultation closes: | Friday 16th January 2026 |
| • Final policy published: | Monday 23rd March 2026 |
| • New uniform implemented (if approved): | Thursday 3rd September 2026 |

Transition arrangements will be put in place to support families to make the changes to the new uniform.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to hearing your views and working together to ensure our school uniform is fair, affordable, and suitable for every child.

Yours sincerely

Mrs M. Henshaw
Headteacher