



Uniform Policy

Review date: September 2026

Date of next review: September 2028

Review History				
Recent Revisions				
Issue No.	Date	Revisions made		

1. Introduction

Our Lady and St Bede is part of Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust, and the uniform supports the high standards of Trust and the school. At Our Lady and St Bede, we believe that a school uniform plays an important role in creating a focused and respectful learning environment. The uniform policy is designed to promote equality, reduce distractions, and instil a sense of pride and belonging among pupils. By wearing the correct uniform, pupils represent not only themselves but also the values of our school. This policy outlines expectations for pupil dress and appearance, ensuring consistency and clarity for all members of the school community.

2. Aims

We believe that a clearly defined school uniform is important to:

- Promote equality and inclusion**
 To create a sense of fairness and reduce peer pressure by minimising visible economic and social differences among pupils.
- Encourage a sense of belonging**
 To help pupils feel part of the school community and take pride in representing the school.
- Support a focused learning environment**
 To reduce distractions and support a professional atmosphere that is conducive to learning and achievement.
- Foster discipline and responsibility**
 To encourage pupils to take responsibility for their appearance and to understand the importance of following guidelines and expectations.
- Prepare pupils for the future**
 To help pupils develop habits of personal presentation that are important in many workplaces and formal environments.

3. School Uniform

The school uniform requirements are outlined in the table below, along with details regarding which items are optional and which need to be branded.

General Uniform

Item	Required/Optional	Information
<i>Blazer</i>	<i>Required</i>	Navy blazer with branded embroidered school badge. <i>Only available from the uniform supplier.</i>
<i>Shirt</i>	<i>Required</i>	White collared shirt with top button fastened. This must be smartly tucked in. Alternatively, a white reverse collared shirt. This must be smartly tucked in. <i>Note: Shirts can be purchased from any high-street retailer or supermarket.</i>
School Tie	Required	Branded school tie, if wearing a white collared shirt <i>Only available from the uniform supplier (or Arbor app for replacements during term time)</i>
Jumper	Optional	Navy V-necked knitted jumper <i>Note: Jumpers can be purchased from any high-street retailer or supermarket.</i>
Trousers	Required	Navy taper trousers or navy trousers. No skinny trousers. <i>Note: Trousers can be purchased from any high-street retailer or supermarket.</i>
Skirt	Required	<i>A knee-length navy and green tartan skirt</i> <i>Only available from the uniform supplier.</i>
Socks/Tights	Required	If wearing a skirt, pupils must wear plain black tights. Knee-high socks are not permitted If wearing trousers, pupils must wear plain dark socks – black/dark blue/grey
Shoes/Boots	Required	Shoes should be fully black and present a smart, professional appearance. Footwear must be plain, with no visible logos, branding, or decorative features. Acceptable footwear includes formal black shoes only. Trainers, boots, Converse-style footwear, sandshoes, and sandals are not appropriate, even if they are black. <i>Note: Shoes can be purchased from any high-street retailer or supermarket.</i>

Outerwear

Item	Information
Outdoor coats	Outdoor coats must be plain and suitable for school. Coats can be worn over the school uniform but must not replace the blazer if one is required.

PE Kit

Item	Required/Optional	Information
Polo top	Required	School badged navy and green <i>Only available from the uniform supplier.</i>
Shorts	Required	Plain navy shorts, with no branding or logos <i>Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.</i> <i>(An optional school branded version can be purchased from the uniform supplier)</i>
Sports leggings	Optional	Plain navy sports leggings, with no branding or logos <i>Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.</i> <i>(An optional school branded version can be purchased from the uniform supplier)</i>
Sports socks	Required	If wearing shorts, pupils must wear navy knee length sport socks with no visible sports branding or logos. If wearing leggings, pupils must wear white short sport socks with no visible sports branding or logos.
Shin pads	Required for football	<i>Can be purchased from any high-street retailer or supermarket.</i>

PE Footwear

Item	Required/Optional	Information
Trainers	Required	<i>Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.</i>
Football boots	Required	<i>Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.</i>

General Appearance

At Our Lady and St Bede Catholic Academy, we believe that a smart and professional appearance reflects pride in ourselves, respect for our community, and a readiness to learn.

Jewellery	Pupils are permitted to wear one stud in each earlobe. No other jewellery (this includes necklaces, bracelets and/or rings) or visible body piercings are allowed. Pupils may wear a wristwatch. Smartwatches or any wearable technology with functionality similar to mobile phones are not permitted. Any items of jewellery or smartwatches should be placed within the mobile phone pouch. If a pupil refuses please inform the on call team. If a pupil refused then the jewellery/smartwatch will be confiscated and stored in the school safe. Parents/carers will need to collect the following working day. between 8.00am-4.00pm
Nails	Nails should be kept at a sensible, short length to ensure safety and full participation in all school activities. Nail varnish, gel polish, and false or acrylic nails are not permitted. Nails must not be of an extreme length that could prevent safe participation in practical subjects such as PE, Design and Technology, or Science.
Hair	Hair should be neat, clean, and of a natural colour in keeping with a smart school appearance. Extreme hairstyles or unnatural hair colours (for example, bright shades such as pink, blue, green, or purple) are not appropriate for school.

	The school recognises and respects cultural, religious, and ethnic diversity. Hairstyles that reflect cultural identity or individual characteristics are welcomed, provided they are safe, practical for school activities, and do not cause disruption to learning.
Religious Head Coverings	Pupils may wear religious head coverings or garments (e.g. hijabs, turbans, kippahs) as part of their uniform, provided they are plain black or navy and meet health and safety standards.

4. Ordering School Uniform

Branded items listed above as part of the uniform at Our Lady and St Bede are available exclusively from our approved uniform supplier, Michael Sehgal and Sons Ltd, via the link below:

<https://www.michaelsehgal.co.uk/schools/our-lady-and-st-bede/>

Certain items of uniform can also be purchased from high street stores.

5. Uniform Assistance and Pre-loved School Uniform

We recognise that the cost of school uniform can be challenging for some families, and we are committed to ensuring that every pupil is able to attend school feeling confident and well presented.

If you are experiencing financial difficulties or require support with purchasing uniform items, please contact the school office. Our staff will discuss the available options with you in a confidential and supportive manner.

We also offer a selection of high-quality second-hand uniform items. These are available for parents to access throughout the year. Families are warmly encouraged to donate any outgrown uniform that is still in good condition, helping us to support other members of our school community and to promote sustainability.

6. Links to Other Trust and School Policies:

- Behaviour Policy
- Complaints Policy

- Equality Policy
- Health and Safety Policy