The Federation of St Elphege's and Regina Coeli Catholic Schools

School Uniform Policy			
Scope:		Regina Coeli Catholic Primary	
Date Adopted:		2015	
This Review:		Summer 2022	Full review every 3 Years Annual progress review.
Next Review:		Summer 2025	
Approved:	EHT:		Health, Safety and Welfare
	Governor		

'With God all things are possible' **'Where there is love, there is God'**

The Federation of St Elphege's and Regina Coeli Catholic Schools will give every child the best possible education because each individual is uniquely created and precious to God. As a Catholic community, guided by the Holy Spirit, we will follow the example of Jesus Christ in all aspects of daily life.

With the help of God's love, the Federation of St Elphege's and Regina Coeli Catholic Schools will seek to develop the whole child. Each child is uniquely created and precious to God and it is the Federation's mission, guided by the Holy Spirit, to nurture each child's spiritual, moral and academic growth. **Inspired by the teachings of Christ we will…**

- Develop our children's faith, spirituality and joy in the love of God
- Educate our children to the highest standards thus realising their own potential
- Instil in our children the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed and take pride in their achievements recognising we each have special gifts and talents
- Encourage everyone to be more than they thought possible, in a secure and loving environment
- Promote a caring community where we will all behave well. We will be dignified in our actions, demonstrating good manners, tolerance, kindness and generosity to ourselves and others
- Prepare our children today to become tomorrow's responsible and independent individuals equipped to face life's challenges
- Ensure our Federation is a happy, safe and welcoming place where we all enjoy learning, work hard, support one another and do our best
- Create an active partnership of love, joy and high expectations between children, parents, carers, staff, governors, parishes and the wider community

Inclusion statement
The school community will ensure that ALL children irrespective of race, ethnicity, nationality, gender (including those who identify as transgender), sexual orientation, ability, special educational need, disability, faith or religion, age, culture, socioeconomic or home background will have equal access to the breadth of this policy.

The achievements, attitudes and well-being of all our children matter and the school will endeavour to promote their individuality. Children with learning disabilities and gifted and talented children will be allowed to express themselves according to their ability. Work will be differentiated to meet their needs and achievements will be celebrated.

This Policy will be implemented through on going consultation with all members of the school community and developments in law or statutory guidance.

Our School Uniform Policy reinforces our Federation values of high expectations for behaviour and academic achievement. We believe our school uniform brings our school community together and provides a sense of belonging. All pupils make a commitment

when they put on their Regina Coeli uniform that they will abide by the rules of the school.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in.
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils where possible
- *Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable* (though we reserve the right to ask for long hair to be tied off the face)
- *Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Head Teacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests*

Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- *Is available at a reasonable cost*
- *Provides the best value for money for parents/carers We will do this by:*
- *Limiting any branded items with distinctive characteristics where possible.*
- *Not limiting the school coat to a branded item which could limit items pupils could wear on non-school days.*
- *Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler*
- *Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items*
- *Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes*
- *Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy*

Expectations for school uniform

In the Early Years:

Winter Uniform Items:

Coat – Brown, Dark green, or Black with hood (plain no logo)
Green Regina Coeli Coat (optional)
Book bag
Green jumper/cardigan (crest optional)

White Polo shirt(crest optional)
Grey trousers/Shorts

Grey/ Brown socks
Brown skirt or tunic
Brown or green tights

Summer Uniform Items:

Green and white checked dress

White polo shirt(crest optional)
Grey shorts
Green Jumper/Cardigan (crest optional)

White socks

Key Stage 1 and 2

Winter Uniform Items:

Coat – Brown, Dark green or Black with hood (plain no logo)
Green Regina Coeli Coat (optional)
Bookbag for KS1
Backpack **for KS2 only**
Green jumper/cardigan (crest optional)

White shirt
School Tie (also available to purchase from the school office)
Grey trousers/Shorts
Grey/ Brown socks
Brown skirt or tunic
Brown or green tights

Summer Uniform Items:

Green and white checked dress

White polo shirt
Grey shorts
Green Jumper/Cardigan (crest optional)
White socks

P.E Uniform Items:

Netball, Football and Athletics kits will be provided by the school for children representing the school in competitions

EYFS, KS1 and KS 2	
Yellow Regina Coeli T-Shirt	
Dark green shorts	
Black Plimsoles for indoor/ Trainers for outside	
Dark green (or Black)jogging bottoms may be worn in cold weather	

School shoes MUST be worn. NO TRAINERS OR BOOTS.

If Boots are worn in bad weather they must be changed for shoes in the classroom.

Hats, Gloves and Scarves

Warm winter hats must be plain, practical and in black, brown or dark green. During very hot weather, children should wear suitable summer hats. Sunglasses are not to be permitted without a letter from a doctor or the parent giving a medical explanation. Suncream needs to be applied before school as we are not permitted to apply it in school. There are shady areas within the playgrounds which children will be encouraged to use on sunny days.

Hair and Nail Varnish

Hair must be a suitable style. The use of hair gel or mousse, or any colouring is not permitted. Long hair must be completely tied back. Please note that scrunches or hairbands etc must be in school colours – brown, yellow or dark green. Nail varnish may not be worn at school and must be removed after the weekend.

Jewellery

No chains, medals and wrist wear (with the exception of watches) may be worn. Simple watches are permitted but the school cannot be held responsible for any loss or damage. Earrings may be worn but may only be small gold or silver studs. Please make sure that if you wish to have your child's ear pierced it is done at the beginning of the summer holidays. Any child wearing earrings that are unsuitable for school will be asked to remove them.

Where to purchase the uniform

Parents can obtain the branded school items from Hewitts in Central Croydon.

- *The school tie can be purchased on ParentPay and collected from the school office.*
- *All other items are widely available at high-street retailers. This allows parents the freedom to shop around for the best price.*
- *The Regina Coeli Parents and Friends Association will hold regular second-hand uniform sales throughout the year and at least termly.*

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified nonschool uniform days) while:

- *On the school premises*
- *At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)*
- *Pupils are also expected to contact the Head Teacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.*

Parents and Carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- *Clean*
- *Clearly labelled with the child's name*
- *In good condition*

If parents are experiencing any challenges with providing the correct uniform they should speak to a member of the leadership team as the school is willing to support where it can. The school may be able to provide items of uniform to children free-ofcharge.

Parents are also expected to contact the Head Teacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- *Their child's protected characteristics*
- *The cost of the uniform*

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

- *Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:*
- *Resolved locally*
- *Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy*

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Staff

Staff will monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families not following the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation does not improve.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

At times a pupil may be lent an item of clothing – this could be because they have been sick or had an accident, or did not have the appropriate clothing in school. We ask that parents/carers return the washed clothing to the school office.

Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- *Is appropriate for our school's context*
- *Is implemented fairly across the school*
- *Takes into account the views of parents and pupils*
- *Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils*
- *The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.*

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years but annually for progress. It will be reviewed at the Health, Safety and Welfare committee and be approved by the FGB.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- *Behaviour policy*
- *Equality information and objectives statement*
- *Anti-bullying policy*
- *Complaints policy*