



Uniform Policy

Review date: September 2026
Date of next review: September 2028



Review History			
Date Reviewed	Reviewed by	Approved By	Date Implemented
May 2026	Headteacher	Local Governing Committee / Trust	September 2026
Recent Revisions			
Issue No.	Date	Revisions made	
1	May 2026	To ensure compliance with Government guidelines.	

1. Introduction

St Bede's School, Darlington is part of Bishop Hogarth Catholic Education Trust, and the uniform supports the high standards of Trust and the school. At School 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**
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. All items of uniform should be labelled with the pupil's full name.

General Uniform

Item	Required/Optional	Information
Burgundy Jumper/Cardigan	Required	Branded or non-branded
White Polo Shirt	Required	Branded or non-branded
Grey Trousers	Required	
Grey Skirt/Pinafore	Required	
Burgundy Checked Dress	Optional	Summer Term
Grey Dress Shorts	Optional	Summer Term
Grey Socks/Tights	Optional	
Black Shoes	Required	Plain black, formal, leather or leather style shoes which can be polished (no boots).

Outerwear

Item	Information
Outdoor Coats/Waterproofs	There will be reasonable adjustments made during adverse weather conditions. Snow suits, waterproofs and boots will be allowed when there is snow.
Burgundy School Fleece	Optional
Wellington Boots/Snow Boots	There will be reasonable adjustments made during adverse weather conditions. Boots will be allowed when there is snow.
Sunhats	During hot periods pupils should wear a sunhat and ensure they are adequately covered to avoid sunburn.

PE Kit (to be worn only on stipulated PE days)

Item	Required/Optional	Information
White Round Neck T-shirt	Required	Branded or non-branded
Black Shorts or Leggings	Required	
Black Tracksuit Bottoms	Optional	Autumn/Winter terms

Navy PE Hoody	Optional	Branded or non-branded
---------------	----------	------------------------

PE Footwear

Item	Required/Optional	Information
Black sandshoes/plimsolls	Optional	Non-branded
Black Trainers	Required	Non-branded

General Appearance

Hairstyles	Hair should be a natural colour (one colour only). Long hair should be tied back. The school reserves the right to decide that the cut and colour of a pupil's hair is inappropriate. Tramlines, Mohicans, extreme short sides, longer on top are examples of styles that are deemed inappropriate.
Jewellery	No jewellery (this includes earrings, necklaces, watches, bracelets and/or rings) or visible body piercings are allowed. For pierced ears, children can wear a pair of plastic place holders.
Make-Up	Pupils are not permitted to wear make-up in school. Pupils are not permitted to wear false, gel or acrylic nails and/or garishly coloured nail varnish. For health and safety reasons nails need to be a sensible length, False eyelashes are not permitted. No fake tan is permitted.
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.
Book Bag	Pupils can bring a book bag.

4. Ordering School Uniform

Branded School Uniform can be ordered at:

ALR Embroidery, 1556-157 North Road, Darlington, DL1 2PS

Or

Non branded School Uniform can be bought from most Supermarkets.

Or

5. Uniform Assistance and Pre-loved School Uniform

6. Links to Other Trust and School Policies:

- Behaviour Policy

- Complaints Policy
- Equality Policy
- Health and Safety Policy