Uniform & Equipment Policy

St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary

Approved by:	Governing Body	**Date:** June 2026
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1. Introduction

Our uniform shows that we are part of the St. Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School community. We have high standards with regards to school uniform and appearance and expect families to work with us in supporting this.
School specific items are available from JD Fashions in Seaham. The items detailed are also readily available from the high street – if parents and carers find any item difficult to obtain, please contact the school office. Our uniform has been kept simple to avoid unnecessary expense.
We encourage families to donate outgrown uniforms to school and these are always available in storage boxes in the school entrance and promoted during open events e.g. assemblies and fayres. We encourage all families to take part in this to save money and help us live simply by calling into the school office at any time.
We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

Our policy is based on the belief that school uniform has the best interests of our pupils at heart by:

- promoting a sense of pride and respect in our school
- helping to create a sense of community and belonging
- ensuring equality and equity
- being practical and designed with health and safety in mind, particularly in line with our active day and engaging in outdoor play and learning
- being good value for money

2. Rights Respecting

St Cuthbert's Primary school is a Rights Respecting School, based upon the UN Convention of the Rights of the Child. The rights within this convention cover basic needs, including education, health, being heard and experiencing a safe and secure childhood. Our uniform has been chosen so that we are best able to meet these rights.

The best interest of the child must be a top priority in all things that affect children. *(Article 3 UNCRC)*- school uniform ensures equality in the classroom and ensures pupils are safely dressed.

Every child has the right to meet with other children and join with groups and organisations. *(Article 15 UNCRC)* – our uniform enables children to participate fully in PE, outdoor play and learning and be identified as part of our school community.

Governments must provide extra money for the children of families in need. *(Article 26 UNCRC)* – our uniform can be sourced from a local supplier or non-branded options from supermarkets are also available. School can provide financial assistance for families if needed and our uniform swap is actively encouraged to keep costs down and care for our environment.

Every child has the right to an education. *(Article 28 UNCRC)* – our uniform enables children to participate fully in all aspects of the curriculum safely and take pride in being part of St Cuthbert's School.

School must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. *(Article 29 UNCRC)* – our uniform ensures that children are suitably dressed for learning, exploring and playing both inside and outside.

Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities. *(Article 31 UNCRC)* – our uniform ensures that children are suitably dressed for playing both inside and outside.

3. Main School Uniform & Equipment

Girls' Uniform	Boys' Uniform
• Maroon jumper or cardigan • White polo shirt or blouse (it does not have to have the school logo on) * • Black/grey trousers or skirt/pinafore ** • **Black** school shoes or **plain black** trainers • White or grey socks or black/grey tights *** No crop tops** ****No leggings or tight / Lycra skirts**	• Maroon jumper or cardigan • White polo shirt or white shirt (it does not have to have the school logo on) • Black/grey trousers • **Black** school shoes or **plain black** trainers • Grey or black socks
Girls' Summer Uniform Alternatives	**Boys' Summer Uniform Alternative**
• Light blue checked school dress • Light blue checked skirt / skort / shorts • Grey shorts	• Grey shorts
Additional Equipment	
• Named water bottle • Book bag or alternative • Change of clothes in PE bag	

Footwear:

- Pupils must wear closed-toed, hard-soled, **all black plain shoes** with a flat sole.
- If black trainers are worn as school shoes, they should be plain black with no coloured logos.
- Footwear with flashing lights is not appropriate for school.
- If boots are worn these should also be plain black.






4. PE Uniform

Girls' Indoor PE Kit	Boys' Indoor PE Kit
• Light blue T shirt • Maroon shorts **or maroon cycling shorts** (not hotpants) • Plimsols • **PE bag containing shorts and plimsols to be left in school**	• Light blue T shirt • Maroon shorts • Plimsols • **PE bag containing shorts and plimsols to be left in school**
Girls' Outdoor PE Kit	**Boys' Outdoor PE Kit**
• Plain navy leggings or jogging bottoms (no brands or logos) • School sky blue t-shirt or plain sky-blue t-shirt (no logos) • School hoodie (or plain grey alternative) • Outdoor trainers for outdoor PE (these do not need to be plain black)	• Plain navy jogging bottoms (no brands or logos) • School sky blue t-shirt or plain sky-blue t-shirt (no logos) • School hoodie (or plain grey alternative) • Outdoor trainers for outdoor PE (these do not need to be plain black)







5. Outdoor Play and Learning

Our pupils have access to outdoor spaces throughout the school year and, unless weather conditions are extreme, will be able to go out and play **IF** they have suitable clothing and footwear. Each classroom has a wellie rack for children to store labelled wellies and storage for outdoor shoes in class – please ensure this footwear is in school at all times.

At different times of year, your child will also need:

- Waterproof coat
- Hat / gloves / cap
- Suncream



6. Accessories, Hair and Make Up

- For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. Pupils may wear invisible 'retainers' for earrings, however, **these MUST be removed for PE lessons by the pupil – staff will not remove retainers for pupils.**
- Wrist watches may be worn but only for the purpose of telling the time. 'Smart' watches linked to mobile phones or with games on are not permitted e.g Apple/Vtech.
- Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either maroon or black or white in colour. Hair bands should not have large decorations e.g. flowers/cat ears attached.
- **Make up, perfume / aftershave** and **nail varnish** should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco. False nails should not be worn.
- Extreme **hairstyles** are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns or 'tram lines' cut into their hair or have their hair coloured or dyed.
- For health and safety reasons and to ensure it does not distract from learning, **long hair** should be tied back.
- Pupils may choose to bring in their own **pencil cases** with coloured pencils, erasers, sharpeners and glue sticks. These must fit in trays so should be small.

Pupils who do wear make-up/nail varnish or jewellery will be required to remove these.

Hats, Headscarves or Headwear

Pupils are not allowed to wear hats, headscarves, or any other head covering inside the school building unless it is due to religious or cultural reasons. Any head covering for religious or cultural values should be simple and in school colours (maroon or grey).

7. Non-Compliance with Uniform Policy

Parents and carers of pupils that do not wear their uniform correctly will be contacted and asked to bring in the missing uniform. If this is not possible then pupils will be provided with the uniform, they are missing for that day. The parent or carer will then be asked to discuss the issue at the end of the day. There may be good reasons why a child is not wearing school uniform. In this case, parents and carers should share the reasons with the Headteacher either in person or by letter / email.
The school will always be considerate and discrete in trying to establish why a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform. Pupils will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. We encourage discussion with the school at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties.
There will be occasions when the school decides that school uniform is not appropriate e.g. when taking part in a physical activity day or wearing different clothes as a part of a fundraising event. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of what is the revised dress code on these days.

Pupils who wear make-up/nail varnish or jewellery will be required to remove these. Items of jewellery will be held by the teacher to be collected by the parent.

Staff will not remove earrings / retainers for pupils – parents will be telephoned to come to school and remove earrings before children can take part in continuous provision in EYFS, play times and any active lessons.

8. Lost Property

Naming clothing and property is VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of pupils' property and valuables.
All mislaid items are placed in the lost property boxes. Please ask the school office if you wish to look through the boxes and they will direct you to where they are kept. We endeavour to return all named property. All unclaimed lost property is disposed of at the end of term.

9. Racial Equality & Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the set uniform respects other policies and allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals.
St Cuthbert's Primary is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

10. The Role of the Governing Body

The governing body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities and poverty proofing. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe and practical.

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform

11. Monitoring & Review

This policy will be reviewed annually and links to the following policies and procedures:

- Child protection policy
- Equal Opportunities
- Health & Safety
- SEND
- Rights Respecting

12. Appendix: Uniform Checklist

BOYS	✓	GIRLS	✓
White school polo shirts or white shirts		White school polo shirts or white shirts	
Grey or black school trousers / shorts		Grey or black school trousers / skirt / shorts / pinafore	
Maroon school sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan		Maroon school sweatshirt / jumper / cardigan	
Black school shoes or plain black trainers		Black school shoes or plain black trainers	
Grey or black socks		Grey or black socks	
Sky-blue PE t-shirt		Sky-blue PE t-shirt	
Maroon shorts		Maroon shorts or maroon cycling shorts	
Grey school PE hoodie		Grey school PE hoodie	
Plain navy jogging bottoms (no logo)		Plain navy jogging bottoms / leggings (no logo)	
Water bottle		Water bottle	
Book bag / school bag		Book bag / school bag	
TO BE KEPT IN SCHOOL	✓	**TO BE KEPT IN SCHOOL**	✓
PE bag		PE bag	
Wellies		Wellies	
Plimsolls		Plimsolls	
Change of uniform e.g. spare polo shirt and navy joggers and socks		Change of uniform e.g. spare polo shirt and navy joggers and socks	

Shorts		Shorts	