



## **St Mary's Primary School - School Uniform Policy**

### **1 Introduction**

**1.1** It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus.

### **2 Aims and objectives**

**2.1** Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money by most parents;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

### **3 Jewellery / nail varnish**

**3.1** On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games, or cover them with a tape, to prevent them from causing injury.

**3.2** Nail varnish must not be worn in school.

### **4 Footwear**

**4.1** The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear shoes as stated in the uniform list.

### **5 The role of parents**

**5.1** We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly

dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. This forms part of the home school agreement.

**5.2** If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the head teacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

## **6 The role of governors**

**6.1** The governing body supports the head teacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the head teacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

**6.2** It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

**6.3** Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

## **7 Monitoring and review**

**7.1** 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 head teacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the head teacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.