



Uniform & Equipment Policy

2024 - 2025

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Introduction

Our uniform shows that we are part of St. Mary'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 Embelmatic and Initial Images. 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 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
- is considered good value for money

Nursery Uniform

Uniform	
• School jumper or cardigan-blue • Light blue polo shirt (it does not have to have the school logo on) • Grey trousers or shorts • Grey skirts and pinafore dresses • Summer dresses-blue and white check • Black school shoes	

Main School Uniform & Equipment

Uniform
• School jumper or cardigan • Light blue polo shirt (it does not have to have the school logo on) • Grey trousers or skirt/pinafore • Black school shoes or plain black trainers(no logos or markings) • White or grey socks or black/greytights *No leggings or lycra skirts
Summer Uniform Alternatives
• Light blue checked school dress • Grey shorts
Additional Equipment
• Named water bottle • Book bag or alternative

Please note: *our children are active every day in school, not just in PE lessons therefore short/lycra skirts are not appropriate. Similarly, leggings, jeggings and jeans are not acceptable.*

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.

PE Uniform

PE Kit
• Plain white T shirt • Plain blue shorts • School jumper or school hoody (if outside) • Plain blue tracksuit bottoms • Trainers

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.

At different times of year, your child may need:

- Waterproof coat
- Hat / gloves / cap
- Sun cream
- Wellingtons

Accessories, Hair and Make Up

- For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery at all.
- 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. Watches must be removed prior to PE lessons.
- Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain. Hair bands should not have large flowers/cat ears attached.
- Make up and **nail varnish** must not be worn to school. False nails must 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.

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.

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 Head of School/ Deputy Head Teacher either in person or by letter.

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 fund-raising 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 confiscated by the teacher to be collected by the parent. Staff will not remove earrings 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.

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 sent to the school office. Please ask the school office if you wish to look through the lost property box. We endeavour to return all named property.

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. Mary's Primary school 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.

The Role of the Governing Body

The governing body supports the Leadership Team 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

Monitoring & Review

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

Child Protection policy

Equal Opportunities

Health & Safety

SEND

