



St Joseph's Catholic Primary School
'Following Jesus in all we do'

School Uniform Policy
2023-2024

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School Vision - "following Jesus in all we do"

By developing respect, excellence, acceptance, confidence and happiness, pupils will have the opportunity to discover life in all its fullness (John 10v10)

In all areas of the curriculum, the key drivers are; positive relationships, independence, caring for the environment, activeness and well-being, resilience and developing spirituality.

Rationale:

At St Joseph's, we support the Department for Education's rationale for strongly encouraging schools to have a school uniform. Having a school uniform benefits the school by:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

A school uniform is also relevant to our school's distinctive Christian character and Christian vision as we aim to foster a sense of community within school as well as developing excellent role models in our pupils, who will act as ambassadors for our school on trips, visits and at church and community events locally. All children will have pride in their school and feel positive about demonstrating this through wearing our uniform.

Alongside this, it is the aim of this policy to set out the means by which uniform will avoid being a barrier to any child attending school, taking part in learning, activities or events. This policy will also have due regard to equality by ensuring no group is discriminated against through the purchase of uniform or through the application of the school uniform dress code.

We believe that wearing a uniform is a way of showing pride in the school and encouraging a sense of belonging. We know that when pupils look good, they feel good about themselves and they produce their best work. Parents' support for our policy is expected.

Cost:

The 'Cost of School Uniforms Guidance' (November 2021) states -

Parents should not have to think about the cost of a school uniform when choosing which school(s) to apply for. No school uniform should be so expensive as to leave pupils or their families feeling unable to apply to, or attend, a school of their choice. Therefore, schools need to ensure that their uniforms are affordable.

Branded Uniform:

A small number of items within our school uniform can be bought branded with our school logo and name. This is an option for parents and not compulsory. These branded items are kept to a minimum and do not include items such as coats or shoes which families might purchase for use both within and outside of school.

Branded items are available from Items bearing St. Joseph's school logo are only available from School Togs in Worcester and M & S Online.

http://www.mandsyourschooluniform.com/staffordshire-worcestershire/st-joseph-s-catholic-primary-school/catlist_fnc5283.htm

Non Branded alternatives:

All of our uniform is available in non-branded alternatives and this is explained to parents. Our uniform is accessible from high street stores, including those which sell uniform at lower prices such as supermarkets.

There will be no discrimination made between children who wear branded/non-branded items to school.

Second Hand Uniform:

We keep a selection of second-hand uniform which is donated from our families. These items are laundered and always available for families to choose from free of charge. Requests for second hand uniform are dealt with through the school office and with the necessary discretion to support families to feel comfortable in making requests for second hand items.

Equality:

This uniform policy pays regard to the actions schools must take resulting from the Equality Act (2010). The equality act does not refer directly to uniform but stipulates that no group with restricted characters must be discriminated against in the purchase of or access to items of uniform.

School will be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and act reasonably in accommodating any adjustments to uniform which are required to comply with a child's religion or belief. These adjustments cannot compromise important school policies, such as school safety or discipline. The school and Local Academy Board will act reasonably through consultation and dialogue in accommodating any uniform adaptations on request.

Comfort:

Uniform has been chosen with comfort in mind and the standard uniform and kit for physical education is appropriate for the activities for which it has been designed.

Exceptions will be made to uniform to ensure comfort in a range of common situations. For example: removing jumpers in exceptionally hot weather. The wearing of short sleeved or long sleeved shirts or skirts, shorts or trousers dependent on time of year and the necessity to be seen in the dark in winter by wearing a coat with reflective strips or high visibility safety items. Judgements will be made with the children's safety and comfort in mind and any temporary changes will be made clear to both parents and children.

Expectations for our school community

Pupils

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

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)
- School will termly ask families to donate old uniform which will always be available on rails outside the entrance for parents to help themselves throughout the year.

There is no charge for this uniform.

- Book Bags are available from school.
- All items should be clearly marked with the child's name.
- Skirts should be knee-length.
- Only conventional black shoes are to be worn. High-heeled and fashion shoes, including boots, platform heels, jellies, sling backs etc. are not suitable for wear in school and are forbidden. Trainers are not a substitute for school shoes and are only to be worn outdoors at lunchtime or for P.E.
- Jewellery: Pupils may only wear items of religious significance e.g. cross and chain, Medugorje medals, pin badges, prayer bracelets but NO rings. If children have to wear earrings in pierced ears, then only one pair of small studs may be worn, again for reasons of safety. Even these can be dangerous in any P.E. lesson, and so they must be removed or taped up by the child for games/gymnastics/swimming/dance, etc. Teachers are instructed not to remove or replace earrings, and parents must consider the possible dangers to their child during physical activities.
- Long hair below shoulder length should be tied back for school.
- No nail varnish, make up or transfer tattoos.
- Hair accessories including; bows, clips and bobbles should be green, red or black and discrete.

Bookbags are used in KS1 and rucksacks are used in KS2, from Year 3.

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
- Parents are also expected to contact the Headteacher or SENCo 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 closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will offer any families support if they are not following the uniform policy.
- 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.

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.

Non Compliance:

As school uniform has been identified as an important factor in maintaining our strong community and pride in our school and ourselves, non-compliance will be addressed. However, due to the age of the pupils this will be done sensitively and in line with our school ethos of treating everyone with respect.

Children will be given verbal reminders about compliance when in school especially with aspects of uniform which relate to health and safety. These will be delivered to whole groups as 'reminders' or individually where they will be dealt with politely with an explanation given of how the uniform is not following the expectation and how this can be improved. Any significant concerns will be raised with parents and, if appropriate, parents will be offered second hand uniform or support with purchasing uniform items.

Document Full Name	School Uniform Policy
Developer/Developer's Role	Louise Bury (Headteacher) Abi Hackley (Assistant Headteacher)
Edition Date	September 2023
Approval Responsibility	School
Approval Date	September 2023
Review Cycle	Biannually
Next Review Date	September 2024

	BOYS	GIRLS
Reception, Key Stage 1	<p>Autumn - Red polo shirt (with or without the logo) School jumper (with or without the logo) Grey trousers Grey socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers are to be worn)</p> <p>Summer - Red polo shirt (with or without the logo) School jumper (with or without the logo) Grey trousers Grey socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers are to be worn) Sun hat</p>	<p>Autumn - Red polo shirt (with or without the logo) School jumper/cardigan (with or without the logo) Grey skirt/pinafore (knee length) White/Grey socks or red, green or grey tights Black conventional low shoes (no trainers are to be worn)</p> <p>Summer - Red polo shirt (with or without the logo) School jumper/cardigan (with or without the logo) Grey skirt/pinafore (knee length) Green check dress (knee length) White/Grey socks or red, green or grey tights Black conventional low shoes (no trainers are to be worn)</p>
PE	<p>White round necked t-shirt (with or without logo) Black shorts Black joggers for winter Black hoodie for winter NO LOGOS TO BE WORN</p>	<p>White round necked t-shirt (with or without logo) Black shorts Black joggers for winter Black hoodie for winter NO LOGOS TO BE WORN NO CYCLING SHORTS OR LEGGINGS TO BE WORN</p>
Years 3 and 4	<p>Autumn - White shirt and school tie Or</p>	<p>Autumn - White shirt and school tie Or</p>

	<p>White polo shirt (with or without school logo) School jumper (with or without the logo) Grey trousers Grey or black socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers to be worn)</p> <p>Summer - White shirt and school tie Or White polo shirt (with or without school logo) School jumper (with or without the school logo) Grey trousers Grey or black socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers to be worn) Sun hat</p>	<p>White polo shirt (with or without school logo) School jumper/cardigan (with or without the logo) Grey skirt/pinafore (knee length) Grey or white socks or red, green or grey tights Black conventional low shoes (no trainers to be worn)</p> <p>Summer - White shirt and school tie Or White polo shirt (with or without school logo) School jumper/cardigan (with or without the school logo) Grey skirt/pinafore Green checked dress Grey or white socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers to be worn) Sunhat</p>
PE	<p>White round necked t-shirt (with or without logo) Black shorts Black joggers for winter Black hoodie for winter NO SPORTS LOGOS TO BE WORN</p>	<p>White round necked t-shirt (with or without logo) Black shorts Black joggers for winter Black hoodie for winter NO SPORTS LOGOS TO BE WORN NO CYCLING SHORTS OR LEGGINGS TO BE WORN</p>
Years 5 and 6	<p>Autumn - Black blazer with school badge (purchase from school office) White shirt with school tie Black trousers Grey or black socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers to be worn)</p> <p>Summer - As above but ensure there is a sunhat</p>	<p>Autumn - Black blazer with school badge (purchase from school office) White shirt with school tie Black skirt (knee length) Black or white socks Black conventional low shoes (no trainers to be worn)</p> <p>Summer - As above but ensure there is a sunhat</p>
PE	<p>White round necked t-shirt (with or without logo) Black shorts Black joggers for winter Black hoodie for winter NO SPORTS LOGOS TO BE WORN</p>	<p>White round necked t-shirt (with or without logo) Black shorts Black joggers for winter Black hoodie for winter NO SPORTS LOGOS TO BE WORN NO CYCLING SHORTS OR LEGGINGS TO BE WORN</p>