

St Nicholas School

Uniform Policy



St. Nicholas School Canterbury

Policy Created	June 2025
Governing Body Committee	FGB
SLT responsibility	Stephen King
Date Reviewed by Governing Body	14/10/2025
Date of Next Review	June 2026

St. Nicholas School – Pupil Uniform Policy (Flexible Guidelines)

Purpose:

This uniform policy aims to create a sense of identity, equality, and belonging among pupils while respecting individual comfort, cultural needs, and family circumstances. Our approach balances consistency with flexibility.

Core Uniform Requirements

All pupils are expected to wear:

- A blue top (royal blue primary / navy blue secondary) – This may include a shirt, blouse, polo shirt, or t-shirt.
- A blue jumper – This can be a pullover, sweatshirt, cardigan, or hoodie in a plain blue shade.

These two items represent the core of the St. Nicholas School uniform.

Details of our uniform provider(s) are found on the school website.

NB: A white top is also considered satisfactory uniform, if it is not possible to provide one that is royal or navy blue.

Flexible Options

To accommodate diverse needs and preferences, pupils may choose from the following:

Bottoms:

- Black, navy, or grey trousers, skirts, shorts, or joggers
- Leggings or tights (in neutral or school-appropriate colours)
- NB: Should pupils opt to wear a skirt, *under shorts may be appropriate to wear in addition, for dignity.*

Footwear:

- Sensible closed-toe shoes or trainers (any colour, provided they are appropriate for school activities).

Outerwear:

- Any suitable coat or jacket for weather conditions (not required to match uniform colours).

PE Kit and Swimming Kit:

- PE kit should preferably be a plain white T-shirt and shorts, worn with trainers or plimsolls.
- Swimming kit should include:
 - An appropriate swimming costume (not a bikini)
 - A towel
 - Body wash for a shower, if appropriate

Satellite Class Provision (Oak Pathway):

- All pupils who are educated within our satellite classes (hosted on-site within mainstream schools) will need to observe the uniform policies of the separate schools involved.

EYFS Provision:

- Pupils within the EYFS pathway at Parkside school will follow the St. Nicholas School Uniform protocols.

Sixth Form Provision:

- There is no specific uniform policy for pupils in our Sixth Form located at Canterbury College. Pupils should wear appropriate casual leisurewear, but must have a PE and/or swimming kit when required.
- NB: If a pupil is on work experience within a business or community facility, they may be required to wear smart clothes and/or follow the specific uniform policy of the organisation involved.

Cultural & Religious Considerations:

- Pupils may wear religious or cultural garments (e.g., hijab, turban, head coverings) in colours that complement the uniform.

Special Circumstances:

- Adjustments to the uniform may be made for health, sensory, financial, or other personal reasons. Families are encouraged to discuss these needs with the school in confidence.

General Guidelines

- Uniform items should be clean and in good condition.
- Logos or designs on clothing (apart from the school logo) should be minimal and not distracting.
- Pupils are encouraged to dress appropriately for the weather and school activities.

Support and Enforcement

We understand that there may be times when wearing full uniform is not possible. In such cases:

- Parents/guardians should notify the school with a brief note or message.

- The school will offer support (e.g., access to spare uniform, second-hand items, or financial assistance) as needed.
 - Pupils will never be penalised or excluded for not wearing full uniform if a valid reason is provided.
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Review Cycle:

This policy is reviewed annually with input from staff, pupils, and families to ensure it remains inclusive, practical, and respectful.

MONITORING AND REVIEW

This policy will be monitored on a yearly basis by the Senior Leadership Team to keep up to date with any adjustments to statutory legislation or curriculum and any changes will go via the Governing Body when necessary.

EQUALITY, SAFEGUARDING AND EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES STATEMENT

St Nicholas School, in all policies and procedures, will promote equality of opportunity for students and staff from all social, cultural and economic backgrounds and ensure freedom from discrimination on the basis of membership of any group including gender, sexual orientation, family circumstances, ethnic or national origin, disability (physical or mental), religious or political beliefs.

As part of our commitment to meet the Public Sector Equality Duty (PSED), St Nicholas School aims to:

- Provide equal opportunity for all;
- Foster good relations, and create effective partnership with all sections of the community;
- Only take actions which does not discriminate unlawfully in service delivery, commissioning and employment;
- Provide an environment free from fear and discrimination, where diversity, respect and dignity are valued.

All aspects of Safeguarding will be embedded into the life of the School and be adhered to and be the responsibility of all staff.