

UNIFORM POLICY



St. Joseph's Uniform Policy

As a Roman Catholic Academy, we view all aspects of school life to be part of the wider faith of parish, home and school. The whole curriculum and way of life of our school is designed to enable our pupils to grow in every way to Christian maturity. The Catholicism of the school is more than its Religious Education Policy; our whole curriculum is rooted in a religious understanding of life, based on the teaching of the Gospels. 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.

Aims and objectives

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;
- 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

Please note that school has a selection of second hand uniform. Please speak to the school office to access this.

Nursery School Uniform

- A white polo shirt
- Dark green knitted jumper or cardigan
- Dark green blazer (optional)
- Black school shoes (flat heeled and sensible)

Boys should wear charcoal grey shorts or charcoal grey, straight leg, formal trousers with plain dark socks

Girls should wear a dark green skirt or pinafore dress with bottle green tights, white socks or green knee length socks OR charcoal grey, straight leg, formal trousers with plain dark socks

Girls' School Uniform

- White blouse
- Green and gold tie
- Dark green knitted jumper or cardigan
- Dark green skirt or pinafore dress OR charcoal grey, straight leg, formal trousers
- Dark green blazer (optional)
- Green gingham dress for summer (From April 2023 onwards)

- Black school shoes (flat heeled and sensible)
- White or green socks (plain dark socks with trouser option)
- Bottle green tights for winter

Boys' School Uniform

- White shirt
- Green and gold tie
- Dark green knitted jumper
- Grey shorts or charcoal grey, straight leg, formal trousers
- Dark green blazer (optional)
- Black school shoes
- Plain dark socks

PE Kits

- Emerald Green shorts
- White polo shirt
- Plimsolls for indoor sports
- Trainers for outdoor sports
- Unbranded, black jogging bottoms with a black unbranded jumper (or St Joseph's) for outdoor sports

All items of clothing - including shoes, bags and coats - should be clearly marked with the child's name.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.

The exceptions to this rule are:

- Small earring studs in pierced ears
- small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or Sikh Kara

We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming for health and safety reasons. The school advises parents who wish their children to have their ears pierced to do so at the beginning of the school holidays.

Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems eg. Diabetes or epilepsy.

Haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. 4 Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (No shorter than a number 2), extreme patterns 'V' styles, Mohican cuts, or dyed, tipped or dipped hair are also forbidden.

All pupils with hair longer than their collar should also tie it back at all times for safety reasons.

The role of parents

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.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. 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.

The role of governors

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.

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

Monitoring and review

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;
- requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

Reviewed: September 2024

Review Date: September 2026