

School uniform policy

St Mary's CE Primary School



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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the headteacher via the main school office info@st-mary.ki.dudley.sch.uk; tel: 01384818295, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
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- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different Key stages
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as using coloured bibs for sport.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Year 1- Year 6

Winter Uniform

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress
- Pale blue short/long sleeved shirt
- Navy blue V neck cardigan or sweatshirt with logo OR plain, non-logoed navy blue V neck sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
- School tie (*elasticated, clip-on and full ties are available via Office*)
- Black 'school' shoes without logos; not trainers. No boots
- White/grey/black socks or grey/ navy tights

Summer Uniform

- Pale blue short sleeved shirt with school tie OR
- Pale blue logoed polo shirt OR plain, non-logoed pale blue polo shirt with no tie
- Grey skirt or shorts OR
- Blue and White checked dress

- White or grey socks
- Sensible flat dark or white sandals or school shoes

EYFS

Reception

As above with the following adjustment to the winter uniform:

Reception children may wear a St Mary's logoed or non-logoed plain pale blue polo shirt all year round as an option if parents choose.

Pre-School

There are no uniform requirements for Pre-school children. All children must wear comfortable clothing, suitable from indoor and outdoors, that they are able to manage with increasing independence (eg. *Elasticated trouser waist bands rather than buttons and zips*)

P.E.Kit (Reception - year 6 pupils)

Children come to school in P.E kit on P.E days

- St Mary's logoed hoodie (available from The Sports Shop) OR Plain navy, non-logoed navy blue hoodie/zip up sweatshirt
- Plain navy tracksuit trousers
- White T-Shirt
- Navy blue shorts / P.E. skirt
- Trainers

Swimming kit (year 3 pupils)

- One piece swimming costume (girls)
- Trunks (boys)
- Towel

Outdoor wear (EYFS and year 1)

Waterproof jacket and wellingtons/boots (children will access the outdoors throughout the year) Wellingtons remain in school.

Jewellery

- A small pair of stud earrings may be worn which must be removed for P.E. lessons (the child must be able to do this independently)
- A wrist watch may be worn.

Please note that the following are NOT allowed:

- Painted nails, including gels and acrylics (children will be asked to remove them)

- Large colourful bows and headbands (blue and/or white appropriate sized hair accessories are preferable)
- Extreme hairstyles including coloured dyes
- Large or hooped earrings, rings, bracelets, necklaces etc
- Smart watches eg 'Apple watches' and fitness trackers eg 'Fitbits'

If children arrive at school with these 'non uniform' items they must be removed at the start of the school day. Items will be kept in the child's tray or in the school office and returned at the end of the school day.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Logoed school sweatshirts, cardigans and PE hoodies are available from The Sports Shop, Kingswinford:

<https://thesportsshopkingswinford.co.uk/>

School ties are available from the school office.

All other uniform items can be purchased from high street retailers.

Second-hand uniform

Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) arranges regular second-hand uniform sales. Information is shared via Parent mail. Alternatively please enquire at the school office.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 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)

Pupils are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 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, via the school office 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.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by following our school behaviour 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.

5.4 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy