

Uniform Policy



Our Lady's Catholic Primary School

"Living and Learning in Faith"

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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 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
- 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

- 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 year groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- 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

We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school to support the School Uniform Policy. We believe that parents and carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. Parents and carers should ensure their child has the correct school uniform, appropriate for the weather conditions and it is clean and named. The school uniform is listed below but please note that is not compulsory to have uniform with the school logo on and children can wear plain clothing as follows:

Standard Uniform	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy skirt or pinafore OR grey school trousers • Navy sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo • Royal Blue Polo Shirt • Grey, White or Navy socks/Navy tights • Waterproof coat
Summer Options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blue gingham dress / skirt / shorts • Tailored school shorts • Black, navy or white sandals
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flat, black, plain school shoes or ankle boots. Boots must not be 'UGG' style and should not come above the ankle • Trainers should not be worn. • Wellington boots may be worn travelling to and from school but children must have their school shoes to change into
PE Kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • White shorts • Royal blue round neck T-shirt • Pumps or trainers (outside games only) • Navy Blue Tracksuit (outside games only) • Spare white ankle length socks (tights cannot be worn during PE)
Swimming Kit	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Swimming trunks (not shorts) or a one-piece swimming costume

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Towel • Waterproof coat for walking to and from the Swimming Baths
Jewellery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The wearing of jewellery is not appropriate for school and is not permitted except when it is worn for religious reasons • For health and safety reasons, the wearing of earrings is not permitted.

Parents and carers are advised to label all items of uniform clearly with their child's name.

Jewellery, Hair and Make- Up

Children are expected to leave jewellery, make up and fashion hairstyles for the weekends and holiday times.

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, we advise that long hair be tied back with a plain dark bobble. Any plain clips and hairbands must be discreet and only used to secure hair away from the face. Large, colourful bows (including Jo-Jo style bows) and hairbands should not be worn.

For health and safety reasons we do not allow any jewellery to be worn at school.

Children should not wear make-up and should not have their nails painted. They should not wear false nails.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Sweatshirts and cardigans, with the school logo, can be purchased from Monkhouses (Stockport) or Davensport.

Second-hand uniforms can benefit all families, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable. We ensure that arrangements are in place so that second-hand school uniforms are available for parents and carers to acquire through periodic second-hand uniform sales or swap shops. We organise the provision of second-hand uniforms via our usual communication channels, which happens throughout the school year.

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 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.

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.

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