

St. Mary's R.C. Primary School



Uniform Policy

Filled with the
wisdom of Mary,
we nurture a love
of learning;
serve others with
compassionate
hearts and live life
to the full as
children of God.

Learning, Loving & Serving like Mary

Approved by:

Jane Myerscough

Date:

29.1.25

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29.1.26

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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 Mrs. Myerscough (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, for example, by having the option of a none-logo school jumper
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 year/classes – e.g. our uniform is consistent from Year 1 to Year 6 for continuity, ease and consistency
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities - any additional items needed, e.g. Team Sport's Kits, are provided by school.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items - we have uniform swap shops and access to the 'Shed Full of Love'
- 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 – for example, listening to parental views before changing our PE tops to black.

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

- Blue jogging bottoms or shorts (jogger material)
- Pale blue polo shirt with/without the school logo
- Black, navy, grey tights or socks
- Navy blue jumper or cardigan with/without the school logo

KS1 and KS2

- Grey school trousers/pinafore dress/skirt
- School tie – Navy blue with logo
- White short sleeved button-up shirt
- Navy blue jumper or cardigan with/without the school logo
- Grey, navy or black tights or socks

ALL

- Plain black flat school shoes/trainers (No colours/ brand names on trainers. Boots are not suitable for the school environment.)

Summer

- Blue checked dress (No variations on this please e.g. no checked shorts or all in ones.)
- White knee or ankle length socks
- Grey school shorts

PE Kit Expectations (Y1-6)

Option One

- Plain navy blue shorts or plain navy blue joggers (no sports logos) (No cycle shorts or leggings.)
- Navy blue T-shirt with or without school logo or official school PE top from PT's
- Navy blue school jumper or cardigan with/ without school logo (No other hoodies.)

Option Two

- School tracksuits- available from our clothing supplier PT's
- Plain black trainers or black school pumps (no colours on these)
- PE kit to be worn to school on designated PE Days only
- If the children have an after school club, they should come to school in school uniform and bring their kit to change into after school for the club

Bags and Jewellery

- Due to health and safety reasons we CANNOT accommodate rucksacks in school. School bookbags can be purchased from the school office.
- For safety reasons jewellery must not be worn, however watches are allowed (not smart watches).
- No earrings are permitted.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Parents and carers can obtain the uniform from <https://www.pts-schoolwear.co.uk/contact>

You can also buy in store at:

Address:

7 New Road
Radcliffe
Manchester
Lancashire
M26 1LS

Phone

0161 723 0991

Second-hand uniform is available via our uniform swap shops. News of the swap shop will be shared with our school community via Arbor ahead of time and on the school newsletter.

If any parent is in need of uniform or support with uniform, please contact school.

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)

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 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Headteacher.

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 body 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 governing body 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 annually by 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