

School Uniform Policy

St Gregory's Catholic Primary School



Last reviewed on: 6th June 2023

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June 2024

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Clarify our expectations for school uniform
- 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

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

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender, or gender reassignment
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to contact the Principal, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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 must 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, if this does not compromise quality and durability
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can function as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different years
- Not requiring different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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



School Uniform.

Winter

- Sensible dark shoes
- White shirt and school tie
- Burgundy v-neck pullover or cardigan
- Grey school uniform trousers
- Grey school uniform pinafore or skirt

Summer

- White polo shirt
- Burgundy v-neck pullover or cardigan
- Grey school uniform trousers
- Grey school uniform pinafore, skirt, or gingham dress (pink and white)
- Sensible shoes or sandals (no heels over 3cms)

Suitable shoes must be worn in school and children should have a change of footwear for PE (see below).

White or dark socks/tights should also be worn. Any footwear that comes over the ankle is classed as a boot and should not be worn in school. If children wear boots to school in the winter, they must change to shoes in school.

Early Years - Nursery and Reception Children

Early Years children also wear uniform. We ask that children wear grey bottoms (trousers or skirt) and a white polo shirt in addition to a burgundy sweatshirt. Children in Nursery class can choose to wear grey joggers instead of trousers.

PE Kit

- Black, white or grey trainers or pumps - elasticized or laces.
- Black shorts and light blue t-shirt - for games and PE.
- A tracksuit may be needed for outdoor activities in cold weather. Children should wear grey joggers and a burgundy top.
- A swimming costume and towel are required for classes going swimming.

Notes

School Bags and Pump Bags - due to restricted cloakroom space children may only use school bags, which can be purchased from the office.

Jewellery - as a safety precaution and to prevent accidents the wearing of jewellery, including hooped or protruding earrings, is not allowed. Stud earrings ONLY can be worn but must be covered for PE. Children may wear watches, which must be removed for PE. Under no circumstance will the school accept responsibility for loss or damage.

Hair Styles - hair shaving and sculpting (e.g., tram lines, ticks, and other shavings) are not allowed. Hairstyles must be smart and neat. Use of gels or styling products should be minimal. For safety reasons all long hair (boys and girls) must always be tied back. Highlights, dyeing and colouring of hair is not allowed.

Nail Varnish - is not allowed.

Old PE kits (red shorts and white T shirt) can be worn until they need replacing.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Branded school uniform is available from the suppliers Clive Mark Schoolwear Ltd (please check that this is with the current school logo) or online from Ace Embroidery <https://stgregorys.ace-online.co.uk/catalogue>

Non-branded school uniform in the school colours from other shops is equally acceptable. Bags and ties are available to buy directly from the school. Name labels can be bought from Stikins Name Labels.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (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 Principal 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 Principal if they wish 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 they will contact the Principal, if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with according to the school's 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
- Considers 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 three years by the Principal, Mark Paine, in consultation with staff, parents and the School Council. At every review, it will be approved by Local Governing Board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy
- Anti-Bullying Policy
- Complaints Policy