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# School Uniform Policy

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Confidently Me   Belonging Together   Challenged to Contribute



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At St. Mary's, our school vision is for every child to feel '**Confidently Me**', to know that they **belong**, and to be **challenged to contribute** to school life and the wider community.

The wearing of school uniform helps pupils feel proud of their school, promotes inclusion and equality. It shows pupils are ready for learning and ensures pupils are dressed appropriately for the wide range of learning opportunities on offer. A smart school uniform is expected to be worn every day, whether it's a regular school day or a PE or trip day.

## 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 all 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: age, sex, sexual orientation, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair 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
- 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/carers to get in touch with the Deputy Head or Executive Head Teacher 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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

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

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

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

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of 3 or fewer items
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible.
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to compulsory branded items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements.
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Supporting the families of pupils receiving Pupil Premium with the purchase of uniform
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money



## 4. Expectations for school uniform

### 4.1 Main School Uniform

#### For Reception children

- **Navy joggers / tracksuit trousers (no logos)**
- **Jumper/Cardigan:** Navy (plain or with logo)
- **Top:** White polo shirt (plain or with logo/blue stripe)
- **Shoes:** trainers

**Summer (optional):** Blue and white checked dress or navy shorts (not football shorts or branded items)

#### Years 1 to 6

- **Top:** White polo shirt (plain or with logo/blue stripe)
- **Jumper/Cardigan:** Navy (plain or with logo)
- **Bottoms:**
  - Mid or charcoal grey trousers or knee-length shorts
  - Navy tailored trousers or tailored shorts (knee length)
  - Navy skirt, pinafore or culottes (knee length)
- **Summer (optional):** Blue and white checked dress / Mid-charcoal grey shorts
- **Socks/Tights:** White, mid-grey or black socks, navy tights
- **Shoes:** Plain navy or black shoes (no boots, trainers or heels)

We believe time outside, such as playtime and PE lessons is really important. However, the British weather is very unpredictable! Therefore, please make sure that your child is properly equipped for all eventualities **and everything is named!**

There is a 'St. Mary's' logoed fleece available to purchase for outdoor wear. This is not a compulsory item.

*Reception to Year 2 pupils are encouraged to keep spare clothes in school.*

#### **PE/Day Trip uniform**

- Light blue polo shirt (with or without logo)
- Navy Sweatshirt (with logo or without logo)
- Navy shorts/skorts/leggings or jogging trousers -not football shorts or branded items
- Trainers

#### **Swimming (KS2):**

- One-piece costume or swimming trunks
- All pupils must wear a swimming cap



## Footwear

- Plain black or navy, flat shoes
- No boots, flip-flops, platforms or high heels

## Hair & Jewellery

- For health and safety reasons hair must be tied back
- Hair accessories should be simple and in school colours (navy, white, blue/white)
- Hair should be a child's natural colour and not dyed
- For health and safety reasons jewellery is not allowed **except:**
  - Small plain gold/silver stud earrings. **Please note earrings cannot be worn for PE activities.** *(If you are thinking of having ears pierced this should be done at the beginning of the summer holidays to allow for healing and safe removable for these activities as per Surrey's policy)*
  - Religious items
  - Watches-No SMART watches or equivalent
  - Medical ID bracelets
- **All items must be removed for PE/sports events** (children must be able to remove items themselves.)

Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any jewellery items that are lost or damaged.

Please note that makeup and nail varnish must not be worn to school. Acrylic nails are also not permitted due to health and safety requirements.

Temporary tattoos are discouraged

## Lost Property

Any unidentified items of school uniform will be taken to the designated lost and found box. Pupils are encouraged to look in these boxes to reclaim lost property, on the understanding that the found item will be clearly named.



## 4.2 Where to purchase or acquire uniform

All our uniform can be resourced through the following outlets;

### ELLIS SCOTT

Website: <https://ellisscott.co.uk/>

Address: 24 Church Street, Reigate, Surrey, RH2 0AN

Phone: Customer Service on 01737 243825

Parents may;

- Make a purchase online with click and collect or shipping or
- Visit the Ellis Scott shop in Reigate

### PMG

Website: <https://www.pmgsschoolwear.co.uk/>

Phone: Customer Service on 01895 809 321

Parents may;

- Make a purchase online with click and collect or shipping

Large supermarkets also supply school uniform which reflects the requirements outlined above. Second-hand uniform is also available. Please see our website or contact the school office

[info@stmarysprimary.org](mailto:info@stmarysprimary.org) who will be pleased to help. Second hand uniform will also be available to buy at open events.

Swimming caps are available from 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)

### 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. (This is vitally important** so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned). The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of pupils' property and valuables.
- In good condition



Parents/carers are also expected to contact their class teacher in the first instance if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

If pupils arrive at school wearing non-school uniform or PE clothing parents will be contacted to discuss the matter.

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

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/carers 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 initially with Year/phase leaders then with the Deputy Headteacher or Executive Head Teacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with in line with our 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 and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory [guidance](#).

### **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/carers, 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 Deputy Head. At every review, it will be approved by the governing body



## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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