School Uniform Policy

St John’s C.E. Primary School





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| **Approved by:** | Louise Bonter | **Date:** 16/1/2025 |
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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](https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents) 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](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cost-of-school-uniforms/cost-of-school-uniforms) 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
* 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/class/house groups
* Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
* Considering alternative methods for signaling 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

# 4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school’s uniform

All children are expected to wear the correct school uniform every day. All items must be clearly labelled.

Everyday Uniform

* Royal blue sweatshirt/jumper/cardigan (branded or non branded)
* Lower School – white polo shirt
* Upper School – white shirt
* Upper School – blue/gold tie
* Mid grey school uniform trousers, mid grey flared or pleated skirt or mid grey pinafore
* Grey or white socks or dark plain tights (no decorative socks)
* Plain black sensible shoes (no trainers)
* A pale blue gingham dress may be worn during the summer

PE and swimming kit

* Plain white T shirt
* Black shorts
* Black pumps (training shoes are not allowed for indoor lessons)
* Training shoes and suitable outdoor clothing are allowed for outside games during the winter months
* In the relevant term a swimming costume or trunks above the knee. All hair must be tied back away from the face.( school will notify you)
* Children must bring a suitable coat to school, preferably one with a hood.
* A small bag is encouraged, a school book bag can be purchased from Touchline

Jewellery

In the interests of safety, jewellery, including beads in hair is not allowed. Those who have pierced ears may wear small studs. However, they must be removed for a P.E. lesson. If this is not possible for a medical reason, then plasters must be worn that cover the ears. Watches are worn at the child’s own risk. Nail varnish is not allowed in school.

Hair

Children are expected to have sensible, haircut/styles for school. Children should not have haircuts with patterns/symbols etc shaved into their hair. Long hair needs to have an appropriate plain bobble/band to tie it back. No child should have dyed/bleached/coloured hair.

Headbands/bobbles must be plain black or in the school colours, not highly decorative or excessive.

4.2 Where to purchase it

* Jumpers and cardigans with the school logo can be purchased from Touchline, a link is on the school website
* Book Bags/pump bags with or without the school logo is available from Touchline.
* All other items of clothing can be purchased from local supermarkets or stores.
* Items of previously worn uniform is available from the school office on request.

# 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Senior Members of Staff.

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 School Trust

The Trust 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 Trust 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. At every review, it will be approved by the Trust.

# 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

* Behaviour policy
* Equality information and objectives statement
* Anti-bullying policy
* Complaints policy
* Information for New Parents