

ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC INFANT SCHOOL

School Uniform Policy

I am special in God's eyes

We will be a happy, welcoming school with Christ at the centre, where everyone is recognised as special
"Do not be afraid for I have redeemed you;
I have called you by your name,
you are mine.
Because you are precious in my eyes,
because you are honoured and I love you."
Isaiah 43 : 2-5

1 Introduction

- 1.1 It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform on our website and in the information pack for new parents.

2 Aims and objectives

- 2.1 Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:
- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
 - engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
 - is practical and smart;
 - identifies the children with the school;
 - is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
 - makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
 - is regarded as suitable and good value for money by most parents;
 - has been designed with health and safety in mind.

3 Jewellery

- 3.1 On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.
- 3.2 Items of jewellery such as rings and earrings constitute a hazard on the playground, in class activities and in PE lessons.
- 3.3 Pupils are required to comply with the school's Health and Safety regulations regarding the wearing of jewellery.

4 Haircuts

- 4.1 Haircuts should be of appropriate length and style. Long hair should be tied back for health and safety reasons.

- 4.2 The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children.

5 Footwear

- 5.1 The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear sensible, practical school shoes.

6 The role of parents

- 6.1 We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork.
- 6.2 If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher.
- 6.3 The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example religious objections, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

7 The role of governors

- 7.1 The Governing Body supports the headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding this policy, and liaises with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.
- 7.2 It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.
- 7.3 Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

8 Buying School Uniform

- 8.1 Items of school uniform and book bags which carry the school's logo are available from our uniform supplier.

8.2 Items of uniform which do not carry the school's logo such as white shirts, trousers, pinafores, summer dresses, PE shorts and T shirts can be sourced by parents from any retailer.

8.3 The school operates a thrift shop for good quality pre-worn uniform.

9 Naming of Clothing

9.1 While every care is taken to ensure that children do not lose items of clothing or other equipment, we cannot accept responsibility for their loss. **Please make sure that all items of clothing are clearly marked with your child's name.**

10 Monitoring and review

10.1 When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Governing Body will:

- seek the views of parents, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;
- consider with the headteacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations with regard to school uniform;
- require the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the policy is being implemented;
- seek the views of the pupils through the school council.

10.2 This policy will be reviewed by the governing body every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.

Date: May 2021

Review Date: May 2023