

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Axminster

School Uniform Policy



This Policy has 'Safeguarding Children and Child Protection' and the school's Mission Statement and Aims at its heart.

Mission Statement: To educate and to develop every child's potential within our Catholic School Family.

1. Rationale

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, including when they are representing St Mary's at inter-school sporting events. We provide a complete list of the items needed for the St Mary's school uniform in this policy, on our website and in the school prospectus.

2. Aims and objectives

Our policy for children's school uniform is based on the belief 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
- 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

Our colours are navy blue, gold and white.

3. Uniform

Boys:

Grey school trousers or shorts
White shirt
Navy blue school pullover with school logo
School tie
Dark socks
Black school shoes

Girls:

Navy blue skirt, pinafore or trousers
White blouse
Navy blue school pullover or cardigan with school logo
White socks or navy blue tights
Black school shoes/sandals
School tie
School summer dress



P.E. Kit:

Gold school Polo shirt or T shirt with logo Navy blue shorts (or skorts for girls)

Trainers (for outdoor P.E.) or plimsolls (indoor P.E.)

Strong drawstring bag clearly marked with the child's name to hold all the above

School Navy Tracksuit (optional)

PE kit should be kept in school all week. A child with incorrect footwear will be unable to join in a P.E lesson.

All items with the school logo/colours are available from the school office i.e. jumpers, cardigans, ties, summer dresses, PE kit, house hats. The school will make every effort to ensure these items are of reasonable quality and an affordable price.

The remainder of the uniform is available from most high street stores.

We would appreciate parents' cooperation and support in ensuring that children are correctly dressed for all school activities, including P.E. and games.

Additional Items

The school sells reversible fleeces, tracksuits, water bottles, sun hats and book bags. We prefer children to use the slimline school book bags as space in the cloakrooms is limited.

Please mark all uniform with your child's name.

4. Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. School shoes should have flat heels and boots should not be worn. We do not allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear and are not in keeping with the smart appearance of the school uniform. Sandals should be flat heeled and have a heel strap.

5. Hair and appearance

In the interests of hygiene and safety, children's hair should be tied back if it is long enough to reach the shoulders. Hairstyles should be smart, and not extreme in nature, as these styles can become a distraction, or a source of social isolation. This includes tramlines, colours or 'Mohican' styles and the use of hair gels should be avoided - if in doubt please ask first. Hair accessories should be discrete and reflect the school colours. Parents should also be aware that tattoos and nail polish are not permitted.

6. Jewellery

Children can become very upset if a treasured piece of jewellery goes missing and for this reason and health and safety concerns, the wearing of jewellery is not permitted. Inexpensive watches may be worn but these must be removed for P.E. Parents who wish for their child to have their ears pierced should arrange for this at the start of the summer holidays only - this will give sufficient time for healing to take place. If plain studs have to be worn they must be covered with a plaster during all PE activities.

Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any jewellery that is lost.

Mobile phones should not be brought into school.

7. Seasonal Safety

All children require a coat in school when the weather is changeable, cold or wet.

On hot sunny days children should be protected from the sun when outdoors by wearing a hat or cap and wearing an appropriate SPF sun-screen that has been applied at home, or that they have brought to school to apply themselves (adults in school are not permitted to apply sun-screen).

The school accepts no liability for loss or damage to uniform or personal items worn or brought into school.



8. The role of parents

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, in uniform that is clean and in good repair, ready for their daily schoolwork. Acceptance of the school's uniform policy forms part of our Home-School Agreement. In the event of infringement of the uniform policy, in the first instance a member of staff would have a discrete discussion with the pupil regarding any explanation for the infringement and any remedial action that might be required (for example, a child might be asked to change into P.E. pumps if their footwear is unsuitable for wear in school). In the event of persistent or flagrant infringements, the Headteacher is responsible for enforcing the St Mary's uniform policy and will contact parents.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious why parents would 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.

9. The role of Governors

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. 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 Equality policy. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

10. Monitoring and review

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
- require the headteacher to report to the governors on the way in which the policy is being implemented.

This policy will be reviewed by the Governing Body every **two years**, or earlier if considered necessary.

Policy adopted:

Signed:..... Date:.....

This Policy should be read in conjunction with St. Mary's Catholic Primary School's policies for:

- Safeguarding Children and Child Protection
- Positive Behaviour and Discipline
- Equality