



Saint Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy Uniform Policy

At St Joseph's Catholic Primary Academy, it is our policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform is included in this policy.

Aims

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- is practical and smart.
- identifies the children with the school.
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- is regarded as suitable wear for school.
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are small plain gold or silver studs in pierced ears, small discreet watches, once a child is able to tell the time, and small objects of religious significance.

We ask children to remove these during PE and games.

Pupils should not wear earrings if they are attending swimming lessons.

Please bear this section of the policy in mind when arranging to have your child's ears pierced.

PE

On days the children have PE, children must come to school in their PE kits (see appendix). PE kits are not to be kept in school. Parents will be informed of PE days – and any changes or additional PE days will be communicated with as much notice as possible.

Swimming – in this instance – is classed as PE so on swimming days children must be in their PE kits.

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 and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good condition. If the school has a problem with clothing that a pupil is wearing, parents will be contacted to resolve the issue.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are reasons, for example on religious grounds or to account for an additional need or disability, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. To request an adjustment of the school's uniform policy for a child, parents should make an appointment to discuss this with the Headteacher. Any agreement will be then put into writing with reasons to why the adjustment is being made and what adjustment has been agreed.

There may be times when a child will not be in full uniform for the day for exceptional reasons (e.g. their child's shoes have fallen to pieces, and they have not yet been able to replace them). If this happens, parents are expected to speak/ send a Dojo message to either the class teacher or the school office (via telephone if necessary) to explain why their child is not in uniform and to advise when they will be back in full uniform.

The role of school staff

School staff have a responsibility to enforce the uniform code and to remind children when they do not adhere to the policy.

Staff will give children a gentle reminder if they notice that they are not wearing the correct uniform.

If a child is noted to have been in incorrect uniform for a period of several days without communication or is regularly in the wrong uniform, a letter will be sent home to advise parents.

If the uniform is still not correct, parents will be contacted and asked to come to see the Headteacher about their child's uniform.

The school will never exclude a child for wearing the wrong uniform, send them home to get changed or teach them in isolation.

The role of governors

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

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

If the Headteacher has had a request for an adjustment to the uniform policy and has declined that request, parents may request that the governors adjudicate whether the adjustment should be allowed. Any request for the governors to adjudicate should be put in writing addressed to the Chair of Governors. If this does not resolve the issue, then it should be dealt with formally through the complaints process starting at Stage 2.

Appendix

Uniform

WINTER (after October half-term holiday until Easter holidays)

White shirt/blouse with a school tie
Nursery children – burgundy polo shirt

Mid-grey trousers/skirt/pinafore dress

School jumper/cardigan

With trousers - dark, plain socks

With skirt/dress - grey tights or socks

Plain black shoes/plain black, flat, ankle boots

SUMMER (optional changes from after Easter holidays until October half-term holiday)

White polo shirt (without a tie) can be worn in place of a shirt/blouse (if a shirt/ blouse is worn – a tie must also be worn)

Nursery children – burgundy polo shirt

Charcoal grey shorts

Red/white checked gingham dresses can be worn in place of a skirt/pinafore dress with white socks

Plain black shoes/plain black sandals

PE Days

Plain or school branded white t shirt or school football top

Plain black shorts or joggers/PE leggings/tracksuit trousers

Dark coloured trainers or black plimsols

School jumper/cardigan/hoodie

School branded items are available to buy online [here](#). Items are also available at Kick Off Sports in Matlock. Ties are available from the school office.

- Long hair should be tied back in a plain headband or bobble. Extreme hairstyles are not acceptable e.g. completely shaved, tramlines or words shaved in, coloured etc.
- There should be no nail varnish or make-up
- All children need to bring a coat to school when the weather is cold for play times. Please note that denim jackets, hoodies or similar fashion items are not acceptable as coats.

- Please make sure that **all** clothes are labelled.
- We are very aware that uniform can be very expensive – the Trust’s Hardship Fund can give support to the purchase of uniform items – see the details [here](#). At times, second-hand uniform will be available from school.

Non-uniform days

Non-uniform days are days when the uniform code is relaxed and children can wear their own clothes for the day. This does not mean that children can wear anything. The following items are not permitted to be worn on non-uniform days.

- Heelys
- High heels
- Any clothing with rude or vulgar language/ symbols on that may cause offence

This list is not exhaustive and we do expect parents to think about what they allow their children to wear.

Reviewed and agreed by Governors: July 2022

To be reviewed July 2024