

# ST MARY MAGDALENE CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL



*“Growing together in Faith and Love”*

## **School Uniform Policy**

Reviewed February 2023

## **Introduction**

It is our policy that all children should wear the correct school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

## **Aims and objectives**

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

- promotes school ethos;
- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart and sets an appropriate tone for education;
- 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, acts as a social leveller;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents;
- has been designed with health and safety in mind;
- makes clear our expectations for school uniform;
- pupils entitled to pupil premium are given support with uniform cost;
- reducing bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions.

## **Uniform costs**

Compared to neighbouring schools we have tried to limit the cost of school uniform. The majority of items can be purchased at very reasonable prices from supermarkets or department stores. Compulsory items are limited to school jumper/cardigan, school tie and PE t-shirt which need to be purchased from Kedaph Schoolwear in Bletchley. They are very good quality and offer durability which is reflected in the price. We do not allow sweatshirts (only in nursery). We have reviewed a uniform cost in-line with guidance from DfE. We have limited the number of school branded items to keep costs down. Our uniform supplier gives the highest priority to cost and value for money.

## **School uniform details**

We believe to change our current uniform to other alternatives would compromise the quality and durability. We have the same uniform for all to avoid additional costs. The use of school branded items is also limited to reduce costs to parents.

## **Reception to Year 6**

### **Boys – winter:**

- Long grey trousers
- White shirt **MUST** be worn with the school tie
- Royal blue v-neck jumper with the school logo (not a sweatshirt)
- Black shoes
- Grey socks

### **Girls – winter:**

- Grey pinafore dress, or grey skirt, or grey trousers
- White shirt to be worn with the school tie
- Royal blue cardigan or jumper with the school logo
- Grey or white socks
- Black shoes

### **Boys – summer:**

- Grey shorts (this is an option in hotter weather)
- Short sleeved white shirt, or white polo shirt with school logo
- Royal blue v-neck jumper with the school logo (not a sweatshirt)
- Grey socks
- Black shoes

### **Girls – summer:**

- Blue and white summer dress (this is an option in hotter weather)
- Royal blue cardigan or jumper with the school logo
- Grey or white socks
- Black shoes or white sandals – no open toed sandals
- Please note pupils may wear a short sleeved white shirt with a school tie if preferred.

No pupils should wear visible, colourful tops under the school shirt.

**Skirts, shirts, trousers, shorts, jogging bottoms, socks and tights are also available to buy from our supplier, Asda, Sainsburys, Tesco etc.**

The school runs a second hand/good quality used shop which is open the first Wednesday of every month at 2.00pm.

## **Shoes, Socks and Tights**

All pupils must wear black shoes, or enclosed sandals. Pupils must not wear trainers or open toe sandals. Shoes should be flat heeled.

Socks must be either ankle, or knee socks. Girls should wear only grey or white socks to school (no bright colours, patterns or logos please). In colder weather girls are able to wear grey or black tights to school. Boys should wear only plain grey socks.

## **PE Uniform Reception to Year 6**

All pupils must wear:

- Navy blue shorts
- Plain black or navy blue joggers (for outdoor PE lessons in cold weather)
- White PE shirt with the school logo
- Trainers or plimsolls (during some lesson in the hall pupils may be asked to work in bare feet)

PE kits should be brought into school on a Monday and taken home every Friday. PE uniform should be kept in a draw string gym bag (these bags are available to buy from our school uniform supplier or you may wish to buy one from elsewhere). Any child who does not have the full school PE kit will be unable to take part in PE lessons which is a compulsory part of the curriculum. Each pupil should have their own PE kit and should not share with other siblings in the school. School has team t-shirts and sweatshirts for interschool competitions.

The white PE shirt with the school logo is available to buy from our school uniform suppliers. Other items are also available from these suppliers, but you may find them cheaper purchasing them from elsewhere.

**All clothes must be clearly labelled with your child's name.**

## **Book Bags**

All pupils should have a school book bag. This is to save parents the expense of buying more expensive bags (that often take up more room in our small cloakroom areas). These book bags will be used by your child throughout their time at St Mary Magdalene's to bring home reading books, letters, homework tasks and pencil cases. Book bags are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers.

## **Jackets and Coats**

All pupils should bring a coat to school in periods of cold or wet weather. Jackets and coats do not have to be a particular colour (although plain colours without big/bright logos or patterns are encouraged). If you wish to purchase a school jacket (with or without the school logo) they are available to buy from our school uniform suppliers.

## **Jewellery and Watches**

Pupils may wear appropriate watches, for which they accept responsibility. Watches such as Apple smart watch or any watch that is internet enabled are not allowed at school. The reason for this is we cannot monitor access to the internet. A pair of plain stud earrings may be worn (although the school would prefer that earrings are not worn to school). Earrings and watches must be removed by the pupil prior to PE lessons (including swimming). No other jewellery may be worn and pupils accept responsibility for any jewellery including earrings.

## **Hair**

St Mary Magdalene school does not permit children to have extreme haircuts, or styles that could serve as a distraction to other children. This includes brightly coloured hair (which is not of a natural colour). Pupils are not permitted to come into school with very short, shaved hair (this includes hair shaved across the entire head at Grade 1 or below, and hair shaved in part of Grade 0). Similarly pupils should not come into school with letters/numbers/patterns shaved in their hair. Pupils with long hair will be required to tie it back if it obstructs their learning, and in all cases where it could be a health and safety issue ie. during PE lessons, cooling or scientific experiments.

Pupils should only wear plain coloured hair bands, beads and hair clips that are in keeping with the school uniform colours (blue, black or grey). For health and safety reasons we ask all children with long hair and beads to tie their hair back.

## **The Role of Staff**

It is the role of all staff to ensure that pupils are adhering to our School Uniform Policy. If a member of staff notices that a child's uniform/appearance is not in accordance with this Policy then they will give the child a verbal reminder (in the first instance).

If a child is repeatedly seen not following this Policy, a Uniform Policy Reminder letter will be sent home informing parents of the uniform that is needed. Parents/carers are required to sign the reply slip attached to indicate they have read the letter.

If a School Uniform Policy Reminder letter has been sent home, and a child still continues to ignore this Policy, the child's class teacher (or a member of the Senior Management Team) will arrange to discuss the issue with the child's parent/carer directly.

# **Expectations for our school community**

## **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 and carers 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.

## **Nearly New Shop**

The school operates a nearly new shop which is open every month. All items are £1 except coats which are £4. Many parents use the shop. We only put good quality items into the shop. All items are washed before sale. Parents can acquire items easily from the school. Parents are sent regular reminders of when the Nearly New Shop will be open.

## **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.

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.

## **Governors**

The governing body 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 governing body 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.

## **Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed bi-annually by the Headteacher and governors. It will be approved by the governors following each review.

## **The Role of Governors**

The governing body supports the Head Teacher 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 policy on equal opportunities.

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

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Pupil's Name:..... Class:.....

Parent/Carer's Name:.....

Signature:..... Date:.....

**I have read and understood the enclosed Uniform Policy and know that the Uniform Policy is available from the School Office and the School Website.**

**I understand the policy is updated bi-annually and is available on the school website for parents to read or may be obtained from the School Office.**