

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

"Loving and Learning Together as Jesus taught us"



Uniform Policy

Date of Policy **September 2025**

Next review: September 2027

Policy written: Governor Uniform Committee

Key Person Responsible: Headteacher

St Catherine's Catholic Primary School

“Living and loving together as Jesus taught us”

At St Catherine's Primary School we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school organised events outside normal school hours. We encourage children to take pride in their appearance. This policy reflects our values and reinforces our school's culture of high expectations and academic achievement.

Our logoed uniform can be bought from Smiths Schoolwear which have an online service as well as a shop in Cockfosters. The rest of the uniform items are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops such as Marks and Spencer's, John Lewis and a wide variety of supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for physical education is included in this policy and is on our school website.

Aims and objectives

Our policy on uniform is based on the belief that we are pleased to wear a uniform that:

- Promotes a sense of pride in our school
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards school
- Identifies pupils with the school
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion for all.
- Makes every child equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, children come to school looking the same and do not have to worry about the clothes they have or do not have.
- Prevents children from wearing “fashion clothes” that could distract children from their learning and play
- It is practical smart and designed with health and safety in mind
- Is considered to be good value for money

Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, make Up and Nail Varnish

For many reasons, including safety we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears and wrist watches. Children are required to remove any additional items such as necklaces worn under the uniform to prevent them from causing injury.

Hair bands/ribbons, small bows, or “scrunchies” should be navy. Hair bands should not have large flowers or bows or other decorations attached.

Make up, nail varnish, stick on tattoos should not be worn to school at all.

The use of styling products such as gel, mousse, wax and serums is not permitted. Over styled hairstyles are not appropriate for school. Children should not have severe shaved heads or decorative patterns cut into their hair. Hair should not be coloured or dyed or adorned with elaborate coloured hair attachments such as large headbands and bows.

Footwear

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes as stated in the uniform list. Black trainers or trainer type shoes are not permitted. Boots may be worn to school but children must change into their school shoes once in school. Wellies may be worn for Forest School activities during the wetter months.

Outdoor clothing

Children should bring a navy coat/waterproof to school each day during appropriate weather conditions. Navy sun hats should be worn outside during the hotter summer months

The Role of the parents

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and has the child’s name visibly labelled on all items. If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a

senior member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Non-compliance with Uniform Policy

It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure the school uniform policy is adhered to. Parents and carers of children who do not wear the correct uniform will be contacted and asked to bring the correct uniform into school. If this is not possible then children will be provided with the correct item of uniform from the lost property store. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit.

Persistent and defiant noncompliance with the policy will result in an appropriate sanction. There may be good reasons as to why a child is not wearing the correct school uniform. In this case parents and carers should share the reasons with the class teacher either in person or by letter. The school will always be considerate and discreet in trying to establish why a child is not wearing the correct uniform. Children will not be made to feel uncomfortable or discriminated against because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. We encourage parents to contact the school at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties. There will be occasions when the school decides that school uniform is not appropriate e.g. wearing home clothes as a part of a fund-raising event or a topic day. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of the revised dress code on these days.

Equal Opportunities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure the set uniform respects other policies such as equalities, race relations and sex discrimination. St Catherine's is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential. Minor adjustments to the standard school uniform are accepted for religious reasons and the Headteacher is happy to discuss these adjustments with the parents in the first instance.

Branded, logoed items

At St Catherine's we are aware of the cost of school uniform and have ensured there is a small number of branded uniform items that are expected to be worn.

The navy logoed sweatshirt/cardigan, polo shirt are branded and are compulsory for daily uniform wear. The navy logoed PE hoodie is compulsory for PE days. In discussion with the parent representatives for each class it was requested children be expected to wear the coloured logoed PE t shirt especially when representing the school for competitions and matches and to keep the logoed book bags. This was to ensure children do not compete with each other for the latest designer book bag / rucksack.

The rest of the uniform such as trousers, shorts, gingham summer clothing (which includes dress, jumpsuit, top, shorts, skirt). The PE shorts, joggers, caps, hats and coats can be purchased in navy without the logo and are all available in clothes stores and supermarkets.

Items such as the caps and hats are available with the logo from our uniform suppliers. These are completely.

Please see the link on our St Catherine's School website which directs you to Smiths Uniform. The website lists the compulsory and optional logoed items.

St Catherine's Uniform is as follows

Nursery Uniform
Sky polo shirt, <i>logoed compulsory</i>
Navy sweatshirt/cardigan, <i>logoed compulsory</i>
Leggings or jogging bottoms - any colour
Coat/waterproof or hat – any colour
Trainers

Reception to Year 6 Uniform
Sky polo shirt, <i>logoed compulsory</i>
Navy sweatshirt/cardigan <i>logoed compulsory</i>
Grey tailored trousers (Boys) Navy tailored trousers/skirt (Girls) - no leggings.

(May to October if warm) Grey shorts (Boys) Gingham wear including shorts, tops jumpsuits, dresses (Girls)
Grey socks (Boys) White/navy socks or tights (Girls)
Reception & KS1 Bookbag <i>logoed</i> . KS2 Navy rucksack <i>logoed - strongly advised to support children's wellbeing. School can provide second hand logoed bags on request</i>
Black shoes – no boots in school
Navy coat/waterproof in appropriate weather
Navy wool hat when cold. Navy summer cap when hot. <i>Logoed optional</i>
Reception to Year 6 PE Uniform
House t-shirt (either red, blue, green or yellow) <i>logoed – strongly advised</i>
Navy shorts – not cycling shorts
Navy hoodie <i>logoed compulsory</i>
Navy joggers – not leggings
Navy PE bag <i>logoed - advised</i>
Trainers

Second Hand Uniform

Second hand uniform is available from the school. Please let the office know what item of uniform you need. Parents are very generous in giving the school items of uniform their children have grown out of or items they no longer need as are transitioning to secondary school. We keep second hand uniform that is clean and in good condition. Please always ask.

Smiths School wear our uniform supplier sell second hand uniform that is good quality and very reasonably priced. Please see our St Catherine's website where a link takes you to the Uniform Suppliers dedicated St Catherine's page.

For a very small donation, the PTA also sell second hand uniform at the coffee morning in the Arts Hub once a month.

Naming Clothing and Property

VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of children's property and valuables. Adults in school will try to return named items to their owners as far as possible. Uniform found in school (unnamed) will be placed in the lost property

cupboard, situated in the dining room. Children and parents are welcome to search the lost property cupboard for lost items on request.

The role of Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform 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 regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensures that the school uniform policy enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is competitively priced, hardwearing, safe and practical.

School Contract

St Catherine's currently has a contract with Smiths School wear. This will be retendered every five years to ensure best value for money.

Monitoring and Review

The governing Body monitors and review the school uniform policy through its committee work. Governors carry out learning walks in school, some with a focus on uniform. They also review the number of logoed uniform items as well as the cost of each item. This policy is in line with the current DFE Statutory guidance and will be amended if there are any further government changes.