

St. Monica's Catholic Primary School

Uniform Policy



‘Let Trust, Respect and Love live here.’

Updated: Spring 24

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Ms Shanahan, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Winter	Summer
<p><u>Reception:</u> Navy blue knee length skirt / pinafore / trousers Grey trousers / grey shorts Navy blue cardigan / V-neck jumper Pale blue polo shirt White, black, grey or navy blue socks or Navy tights may be worn instead of socks; tights and socks may not be worn together. Dark shoes (no trainers or boots). In severe weather pupils may wear boots or Wellingtons to school, but they must bring their normal shoes and wear them indoors.</p>	<p><u>Reception:</u> Light blue and white small checked (i.e. gingham) short sleeved dress Or Navy blue knee length skirt / pinafore / trousers Grey trousers / grey shorts Pale blue polo shirt Navy blue cardigan / V-neck jumper. White, grey, black or navy blue socks Dark shoes (no trainers or boots).</p>

(Shirt and ties will be introduced in Year 1).

Key Stage 1 and 2

Navy blue knee length skirt / pinafore / trousers

Grey trousers / grey shorts

Navy blue cardigan / V-neck jumper

Pale blue shirt

Royal blue and white tie (available to purchase via ParentMail)

White, grey, black or navy blue socks

Dark shoes (no trainers or boots).

In severe weather pupils may wear boots or Wellingtons to school, but they must bring their normal shoes and wear them indoors.

Key Stage 1 and 2

Light blue and white small checked (i.e. gingham) short sleeved dress.

Or

Navy blue knee length skirt / pinafore / trousers

Grey trousers / grey shorts

Navy blue cardigan / V-neck jumper

Pale blue short sleeved shirt

White, grey, black or navy blue socks or Navy tights may be worn instead of socks; tights and socks may not be worn together.

Dark shoes (no trainers or boots).

P.E. Kit- Reception, KS1 and KS2

- Dark tracksuit (Black or Navy) No leggings.
- Dark shorts (Black or Navy) No cycling shorts.
- Light blue t-shirt
- Trainers suitable for sport

From Easter 2024, all children will come to school dressed in their P.E kit on P.E days. (No more than twice a week)

Additional Information

Please note: All pupils require a Reading Folder which can be bought at Maisie's uniform shop in Wolverton. <https://maisies-superstore.co.uk/product-category/schools/>

Rucksacks / Large bags

Rucksacks and large bags are not permitted due to the lack of space in school. Pupils should be using the school book bags to transport and store reading books.

Allowances will be made for children who have specific medical/physical needs recommended by a doctor's note. Please inform the school if for any reason your child needs to deviate from our uniform policy.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears (to be removed or covered with a plaster during PE). Any small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain can be discussed with the Headteacher on an individual basis.

Haircuts

The school does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. E.g. Mohawk Style

Extreme shaved patterns/styles, coloured braids, fashion hair accessories or multi-coloured beads are all not permitted.

For reasons of health and safety and to avoid the spread of head lice, children (boys and girls) with shoulder length hair and longer, should have their hair tied back.

4.2 Where to purchase it

All logo labelled clothing can be purchased on the Maisie's website, <https://maisies-superstore.co.uk/product-category/schools/> and school ties can be purchased via the ParentMail App.

Any other items can be purchased from high street retailers and supermarkets.

Second hand items can be purchased from our 'Pre-loved' collection. Sale dates will be advertised throughout the year or please speak to the school office who will be able to help you with individual requests.

If you require further support with uniform, please contact the school office on 01908 606966.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school

- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact Ms Shanahan if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 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 are also expected to contact Ms Shanahan if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents 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.

5.3 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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by a member of the senior leadership team.

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.

5.4 Governors

The governing board 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 board 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.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- Pupil Premium Policy