



St Mary's RC Primary School

School Uniform Requirements and Dress Code

The Role of the School

At St Mary's, we believe that high standards in dress and appearance support pupils to be more successful, and ultimately happy, at school. Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- Promotes pride and feeling of self-worth.
- Promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- Promotes positive behaviour.
- Helps to create a sense of community and belonging.
- Identifies pupils with the school.
- Supports the school's commitment to inclusion.
- Prevents pupils from sporting 'fashion' styles that could be distracting.
- Is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind.
- Is considered good value for money by most parents/carers.

All decisions on dress-code and uniform will be made in line with school policy, and at the discretion of the Headteacher.

The Role of Parents/Carers

We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents and carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. Parents and carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents and carers 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, parents and carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

The Role of the Governors

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents and carers 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.

Uniform Requirements

Boys: Grey trousers; pale blue polo shirt; royal blue sweatshirt with school logo; black shoes.

Girls: Navy blue trousers, skirt or pinafore; pale blue polo shirt; royal blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo; black shoes.

Boys may wear shorts in the summer months; Girls may wear a blue gingham dress, or shorts, during summer months.

St Mary's uniform (embroidered sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts, PE kit, fleeces and coats) is available through our school supplier (Mick Martin Promotions).

All uniform should be clearly labelled.

For practical reasons, velcro fasteners are preferred until pupils can proficiently tie their own laces.

Parents are asked to avoid purchasing 'playsuit' style dresses which can cause difficulties when children go to the toilet.

Footwear

School shoes (for both boys and girls) should be:

- Black leather (or 'polishable' leather substitute).
- Fastenable (strap or laces).

For clarity, the following would not be deemed suitable for school:

- Black trainers (sports brand/designed as a training shoe).
- Anything with an 'open-toe'.
- Loose fitting 'loafer' style shoe.
- Anything with a heel or platform.
- Lightweight 'knitted' material.
- Anything that could be classed as a 'fashion shoe'.

Jewellery

Jewellery (apart from a watch) and make-up (including nail varnish and acrylic nails) should not be worn in school. Earrings are not permitted at any time (as a matter of health and safety) and should be taken out before the start of the school day – even if you choose to have your child's ears pierced during the school term.

Hair

Hair should be neat and tidy. Shoulder-length hair (girls and boys) must be tied back in a pony-tail. Hair should be kept out of children's eyes. Excessive adornments of hair (large bows, over-the-top hair bands etc) and braids, as well as any form of semi-permanent or permanent dyes, are also not permitted.

For boys, cropped hair must be no shorter than a grade 3; 'tramlines' or other shaved designs are not permitted.

PE Kit

The PE kit for all pupils is comprised of royal blue sports shorts or plain navy jogging/tracksuit bottoms; a yellow St Mary's PE t-shirt; a royal blue St Mary's hoodie; sensible training shoes. All of these items (apart from footwear) are available through our uniform supplier. All items of PE and sports kit should be clearly named. Pupils should come into school in their full PE kit on designated PE days.