



St. Mary's Church of England VC Infant School

'Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God'

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Policy Document

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| Policy Document | |
| Subject | School Uniform |
| Approval Date January 2025 | Review Date January 2027 |
| Signed by: | Miss Edey |
| Name: | V. Edey |
| Role: | Headteacher |

Our Vision

We aspire to be a community living life in all its fullness. We share, care, learn and love with God, valuing the dignity and respect of all humanity and creation. Through the power of the Holy Spirit Jesus’ Kingdom comes and everyone can flourish together.

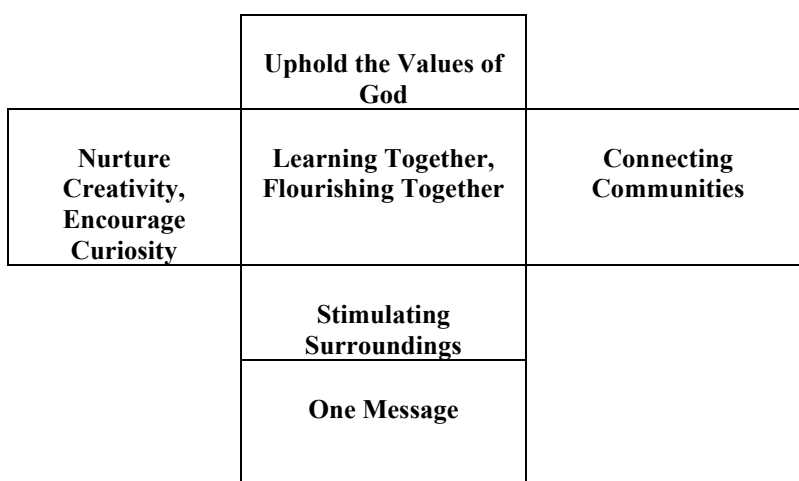
Our Mission

‘Sharing, caring, learning and loving with God.’

Our Values

Friendship, Perseverance, Respect, Trust, Thankfulness, Humility, Generosity, Forgiveness, Courage, Peace, Compassion, Responsibility, Dignity

Our 6 Key ideals that underpin our vision



Understanding our vision

Our 6 key ideals were created through the input of all stakeholders as being important factors in what we want from our school every day.

‘We aspire to be a community living life in all its fullness’ (John 10:10) Church of England vision for Education

‘Sharing, Caring, Learning and Loving with God’ (School’s mission statement)

‘Valuing the dignity and respect of all humanity and all creation’ (Reference to Jonah and the Whale and the Church of England vision)

‘Through the power of the Holy Spirit’ (The importance of the Holy trinity and that we can’t do it alone. We must work together.)

‘Jesus’ kingdom comes.’ (Themed verse, Lord’s Prayer and the goal of the school for us to create a peaceful and successful kingdom)

Flourish: Achievement

Together: Community

School Uniform Policy

1. Statement of intent

Our policy has been created with health and safety, value for money, and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure pupils wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment. Our policy supports our compliance with the Department for Education's School uniform guidance and statutory requirements.

It is important that our pupils feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform.

We believe a uniform allows all pupils, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports specific attire.

St Mary's infants is committed to ensuring equality and value for money, and that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

Within our school we promote an atmosphere which encourages a love of learning, creativity, enjoyment, resilience and a celebration of the achievements of all our pupils. Our concern for these high standards is also reflected in the pride we take in our school uniform and the feeling of belonging it creates.

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school or and, unless otherwise indicated (e.g. sports or other special event activities), when participating in a school organised event outside of normal school hours.

2. Aims and Objectives

Our policy for uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school and it has a positive impact on behaviour and attitudes in school.
- Develops a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- Identifies children with our school when taking part in out of school educational activities and visits.
- Is practical and looks smart.
- Makes children feel equal to others in terms of appearance.
- Is regarded as suitable wear for school and considered by most parents as good value for money.
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.

Role of the Headteacher and Governing Body

The Headteacher:

- Implements and monitors the policy throughout the school community as part of the duty within maintenance of day - to - day discipline in the school.
- Has overall responsibility for ensuring standards are maintained.
- Is responsible for any disciplinary measures required for failing to follow the uniform rules.
- Issues letters to parents / carers as required.

The Governing Body:

- Should be receptive to any reasonable complaint from parents or carers concerning uniform, by handling it respectfully and considering fully the issues they raise.
- Should aim to work with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Role of the Staff

The staff will:

- Support the headteacher in maintaining high standards of uniform dress.
- Provide role models in the wearing of appropriate clothing and not wear tracksuits unless during a morning or afternoon session where Physical Education is being taught.
- Make discreet and sympathetic enquiries when children fail to wear school uniform.
- Give positive encouragement to children setting good examples of dress.

Role of the Parents / Carers

The Parents will:

- Support the School Uniform Policy.
- Ensure children come properly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork every day.
- Ensure all items of clothing are clearly named – this helps lost items be easily identified and returned.
- Parents and carers should raise any complaints about the school uniform by following the school complaints procedure.

Role of the Children

The Children will:

- Wear the school uniform when attending school, representing the school or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours.
- Wear the school uniform with pride.
- Try to keep their uniform clean and tidy.
- Remember to bring kit on the correct days.

3. Legislative framework

3.1 This policy has due regard to statutory legislation and national guidance, including, but not limited to the following:

- The Education and Inspections Act 2006
- The Education Act 2011
- The Human Rights Act 1998
- The Equality Act 2010
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniform'

4. Cost and availability

4.1 Under the School Admissions Code 2021, the school must ensure that “policies around school uniform or school trips do not discourage parents/carers from applying for a place for their child.

4.2 St Mary's Infant school is committed to fulfilling the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care has been taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and potential pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

4.3 The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.

4.4 The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes into account the views of parents/carers and pupils when considering changes to school uniforms.

4.5 Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents/carers struggling to meet the associated costs.

4.6 In line with the DfE guidance, the school keeps the number of branded items to a minimum. At St Mary's, we only advise for one item to have the school logo on and this is the jumper, however this is not compulsory.

5. Religious clothing

5.1 Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. St Mary's Infants does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school must weigh the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community. The school endeavours to allow most religious requirements to be met.

5.2 Parents'/carers' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Headteacher and Governing Body, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

6. Equality

6.1 The school is required to ensure that the Uniform Policy does not discriminate unlawfully.

6.2 Every step has been taken by St Mary's Infants to ensure that the cost of uniform options are not disproportionate.

7. Complaints and challenges

7.1 The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy. Parents/carers can lodge complaints using the school's complaints policy that is available on the school website.

7.2 Should parents have complaints that are directly linked to the supply, quality or service provided by a supplier, they should take this up with the supplier directly in the first instance.

7.3 Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular medical, social and/or cultural circumstances.

8. Non-compliance

8.1 Teachers are permitted to challenge pupils for breaching the Uniform Policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy. Staff will discreetly talk to children to find out why they are not in uniform and to remind them of the need to wear one.

8.2 Parents/carers will be contacted and notified in all cases of issues concerning uniform.

8.3 We understand that there may be some exceptional and unavoidable circumstances where children may have to come to school without a part of their school uniform (e.g. through loss or damage). In such instances we respectfully request parents to contact school on the day to confirm the reason.

8.4 St Mary's Infant School expects all pupils and parents to conform with this policy, but in the event of recurring breaches, we will work closely and supportively with the parents / carers to resolve the situation.

9. Persistent non - compliance:

- 9.1 The class teacher will contact the parent directly to discuss this matter, followed by the Key stage leader, then Deputy head.
- 9.2 Continued non-observance of the policy will result in a formal letter being issued by the headteacher.
- 9.3 It is sincerely hoped that the above steps will only need to be taken infrequently and, in almost all cases, will be sufficient to resolve the situation.
- 9.4 While some form of exclusion would not normally be deemed as an appropriate response to breaches of school uniform / appearance policies, the school reserves a right to consider such a sanction in exceptional cases where these breaches are persistent and in open defiance of the school's uniform policy, and where all other avenues have been exhausted.

10. Our School Uniform is as follows:

- Royal blue school sweatshirt, jumper, or cardigan – *these can be plain or have the school logo*
- White polo shirt
- Grey or black skirt/pinafore dress
- Grey or black tailored trousers
- Grey or black tailored shorts
- Blue/white checked summer dress
- Grey, white or black socks
- Black or grey tights
- Black shoes. *Trainers sandals and boots are not part of our school uniform*
- Wellies
- Hair bands/clips must be school uniform colours only.

11. PE Kit

- Royal blue school sweatshirt, jumper, or cardigan – *Ideally, at least one should be with a school logo.*
- White t-shirt or polo shirt
- Navy or black shorts/skort
- Navy or black jogging/tracksuit bottoms
- For indoor PE children work in bare feet
- For outdoor PE children require trainers in white, black or blue

*All clothing and footwear **MUST** be clearly labelled with the pupil's name

12. Jewellery

12.1 Children with pierced ears should wear single studs, **which need to be removed for PE**. Any child whose earrings cannot be removed for medical reasons, can undertake PE providing the earrings are covered by a plaster or tape which parents need to supply.

Note: staff do not put ear studs, etc. back in if the child cannot manage it.

13. Policy review

- 13.1 This policy is reviewed every two years by the Chair of Gobs and the Headteacher.

13.2 The scheduled review date for this policy is January 2027

Appendix 1

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer,

We noticed that your child was not wearing their full school uniform in school today. I am sure you will appreciate the many advantages of wearing school uniform as listed in our School Uniform Policy both for you and your child in school.

As our policy states:

“Within our school we promote an atmosphere which encourages a love of learning, creativity, enjoyment, resilience and a celebration of the achievements of all our pupils which encourages effort, enjoyment and a celebration of the achievements of all our pupils. Our concern for these high standards is also reflected in the pride we take in our school uniform and the feeling of belonging it creates.”

We would therefore be very grateful if you could make sure that your child is dressed appropriately every school day. If there is some problem preventing you from ensuring your child wears school uniform, please do not hesitate to contact the school to make an appointment to discuss the situation.

We would hope to be of help in supporting you and your child in fulfilling our requirements.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Miss Edey

Headteacher