

St Peter's Catholic Primary School



School Uniform Policy

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The governors of St Peter's Catholic School believe that school uniform:

- › Promotes the ethos of the school
- › Provides a sense of belonging and identity
- › Sets an appropriate tone for education

The governors intend their uniform policy to be inclusive, and have considered the implementation of their uniform policy so that all pupils are able to wear the uniform.

1. Aims

This policy aims to:

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

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:

- › 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 as we refer to 'working hair')
- › 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 reasonable accommodation for pupils to wear religious or cultural symbols
- › Allow pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in
- › Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality as discussed by parents with the headteacher.

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 items with the school logo) 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

We will do this by:

- › Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics as appropriate - only jumpers and polo shirts/tops have the school logo
- › Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- › Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats and bags
- › Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- › 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

All items of clothing must be clearly marked with names.

Uniform

- School waterproof fleece (optional)*
- School polo shirt - short sleeve* / long sleeve*
- School sweatshirt* / cardigan*
- Grey trousers (long or short)
- Navy blue pinafore or skirt
- Blue and white check dress (summer)
- Plain coloured coat – ensuring that the coat is suitable and safe for pupils who walk or cycle to school so they can be seen. Please consider wearing a reflective band/badge.
- Blue/grey/white socks (not trainer socks) or navy tights
- Black shoes- that are practical for the school day

All items (marked with an asterisk *) have the school logo – see below for purchase information

For P.E.

- White polo-shirt and royal blue shorts or shadow strip shorts*, white socks.
- Trainers for Year R [Velcro type trainers are a good choice]
- Trainers for KS1 & 2 pupils
- 1 navy blue track suit

Jewellery

Children may wear watches to school and small stud earrings are acceptable but, for safety reasons, these must be removed or taped during P.E. and the school cannot be held responsible for any items that are lost. We ask that pupils leave all other jewellery at home.

School Bags

We ask that children only bring in the bag size that is necessary for what they need for the school day. We encourage book bags to help keep books and homework in good condition.

Smart Appearance

- In class and walking around school, only school uniform is worn and shirts are tucked in at the waist.
- On colder days, coats, fleeces, scarves, gloves, hats etc should be worn outside the school building.
- Hair is smart, we call it 'working hair':
 - It is in an appropriate style for school and must not reflect any extreme of fashion.
 - Hair is free from hair product and dye.
 - Long hair (shoulder length or longer) is tied back away from the eyes with a blue, black or white hair band, tie or clip.
- No make-up, thank you (this includes nail varnish).
- Friendship bracelets and necklaces are considered as jewellery and so are not allowed in school.

4.2 Where to purchase it

All items (marked with an asterisk *) with school logo, i.e. sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts, P.E. kit, hats, waterproof fleeces are available from www.direct4logos.com only or by ringing 01794 511550 or visiting their unit @ Unit 44, Romsey Industrial Estate, Greatbridge Road, Romsey S051 0HR. Skirts, pinafores, trousers etc can also be purchased from major chain stores and supermarkets. Uniform can be ordered from the school office if internet access is unavailable.

We want uniform to be affordable, and we also recognise the importance of recycling for the environment, and so the PTA regularly hold second hand sales for our uniform with the logo, while the school office holds second hand uniform sales for non-logo uniform eg skirts, trousers and summer dresses. For details of these see Parentmail or our weekly newsletter, or speak to the school office receptionist. We welcome parents new to the school to contact the office about second hand uniform before their child joins. We also invite families to donate outgrown good quality uniform.

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

5.2 Parents

Parents 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 the headteacher 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 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 and are wearing it smartly. They will inform pupils and, when required, parents if the uniform policy is not adhered to, seeking to find out why this is the case, recognising financial constraint may be an issue. If needs be, this will be followed up with the headteacher.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with the 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 Catholic ethos
- › 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 governors will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

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

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- › Equality information and objectives statement
- › Complaints policy