

St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School



School Uniform Policy 2022-23

Review Date: 1st April 2022

Signed by:

Signature:

Date:

At St. Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School we pride ourselves on our bespoke curriculum which has been designed by our children, governors, community and staff to ensure that learning experiences are rich and balanced. Throughout our curriculum and everything that we do here in school, we ensure that we all Love, Learn and Grow together with Jesus.

School Uniform Policy April 2022

Overview

At St Margaret Mary's Catholic Junior School, we do not want any prospective or future parent to have to consider the cost of a school uniform when choosing which school(s) to apply for; therefore, our aim is to ensure that our school uniform is affordable. This also applies to our current families who need to purchase new items of uniform as their child grows.

In considering cost, we will take into account all items of uniform or clothing that parents will need to provide whilst their child is at the school.

This policy sets out the uniform requirements for our school, including seasonal variations and Physical Education. It also covers expectations of acceptable footwear and personal presentation.

Our hope is that by implementing a fair and considered policy we will be promoting the ethos of our school by providing pupils with a sense of belonging and identity, setting an appropriate tone for education and creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background.

We hope that this policy will also reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes.

At St Margaret Mary's we do not purchase uniform to resell to our families. Instead, we work with local suppliers to ensure that prices and quality remain competitive and that families do not have to travel far to acquire them. Furthermore, we ensure that our non-branded items can be purchased at other local clothing providers.

Aims

We do not wish to create a situation where a distinction can be made between those who can afford a full school uniform and those who cannot as this can reduce the benefits of a uniform and has the potential to negatively impact attendance, access and participation and can lead to bullying.

No school uniform should be so expensive as to leave pupils or their families feeling unable to apply to or attend a school of their choice. Therefore, we need to ensure that uniforms are affordable.

Objectives

1. To ensure our uniform is not too expensive where it can place an unreasonable burden on families.
2. To keep costs low- school only requires the use of branding on 3 items (jumpers, cardigans, and PE t-shirts).
3. Items that will not require branding include boys' white shirts, girls' gold shirts, girls' summer dresses, boys' polo shirts (although logoed polo shirts are available), trousers, skirts, socks, footwear and ties.
4. To ensure that non branded items can be purchased from various clothing providers.
5. To provide pupils with a sense of belonging and identity, setting an appropriate tone for education and creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background.
6. To keep children safe in school by wearing appropriate footwear.
7. To apply the same aims to our acceptable hair styles (see below for further details).
8. To publish our policy on our school website for all to access.

Arrangements for the supply of uniforms (Uniform Providers)

Cost and value for money for parents is our most important consideration when considering how our school uniforms should be sourced. Parents should be able to purchase generic items of uniform from a range of retailers giving them choice and value for money.

As our school's uniform includes branded items, we will ensure a written price agreement is in place with our supplier for these items.

School will demonstrate that we have obtained the best value for money from suppliers and will review the agreement at least every five years. Any savings negotiated with suppliers will then be passed on to parents.

School will ensure that suppliers continue to provide good value for money throughout the duration of the agreement.

Views of Parents and Pupils

Prior to any agreement school will consider parental and pupil views of potential providers.

Provision of Pre-Loved Uniforms

Pre-Loved uniforms can benefit all parents, particularly those on low incomes. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable.

Our schools work closely with our Parent Teacher Association to ensure that arrangements are in place to ensure that Pre-Loved school uniforms are available for parents to acquire (for example through periodic Pre-Loved uniform sales or swap shops).

When these arrangements are agreed information on the dates and times of any sale will be published on our website.

Complaints

Complaints/concerns about the cost of school uniforms can hopefully be resolved locally and should be pursued in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy. Any concerns in relation to the quality of uniform can be made to our provider. In such instances, school encourage families to keep school updated with any unresolved issues.

Pupil non-compliance

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with a school's published uniform policy, school will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolve the situation.

Autumn/Spring Uniform

- Grey skirt / Grey trousers/shorts
- **Gold** blouse / white shirt
- **Black and Gold Tie.**
- Grey cardigan or pullover with school badge
- Short or knee length white or grey socks (not sport or patterned socks)
- During the winter months thick black or grey tights.
- Black flat Shoes.

Summer Uniform

- Yellow polo shirt (Not t-shirt)
- Yellow/White Dress & White socks
- Grey shorts & socks
- Black shoes
- Black or white flat shoes (no open toe sandals).

FOOTWEAR - Children must wear sensible shoes in school. In the interests of safety, we ask that the shoes have a flat heel. For health and safety reasons, clogs, heeled sandals, boots etc are unacceptable. Trainers may be worn at playtime and lunchtime when the children are outside, but they are not to be worn to and from school or indoors. Children require a pair of black pumps to wear within the school building and for PE. This keeps the carpets clean and is a health and safety feature.

HAIR - Hair should be appropriately styled. Long hair should be tied back at all times with yellow or black ribbons/bobbles. Hair should not be excessively short or inappropriately styled (numbers or designs are not acceptable).

Communications used.

1. School Website
2. Email &
3. Text messages

Linked policies - Health and Safety / Child Protection / Wellbeing.