Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

School Uniform Policy

Date November 2026



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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 our Head Teacher 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
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- 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

Charcoal grey trousers, skirt or pinafore dress. White shirt and tie. School sweatshirt/fleece/cardigan.

Summer

Charcoal grey trousers (Short/long). Summer dress – blue and white gingham. White shirt and tie or polo shirt. School sweatshirt/fleece/cardigan.

Footwear

Shoes

Should be black and flat with heels and toes enclosed.

Socks

Half or three quarter length grey or white

Tights
Grey

PE
Navy blue shorts (plain), School pale blue PE T-shirt, School sweat shirt

Trainers
(velcro strap for younger children)

Drawstring School P.E bag
– to remain in school (named)

4.2 Where to purchase it
School Uniform can be purchased through the website and through the school office. Second hand uniform can also be purchased via our Parent, Teacher and Friends Association.

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 our Head Teacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Adapted Uniform for SEND Pupils
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School is committed to ensuring that all pupils, including those with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND), are comfortable, safe and able to access learning without unnecessary barriers. We recognise that some pupils may require reasonable adjustments to the uniform policy.

Adaptations may include, but are not limited to:

- Sensory-friendly alternatives (e.g., softer fabrics, tag-free clothing, elasticated waistbands).
- Adjustments for medical needs (e.g., access for feeding tubes, orthotic supports, splints or braces).
- Footwear adaptations where specialist shoes or orthopaedic footwear are required.
- Permission to wear alternative items if standard uniform causes significant discomfort or distress.
- Allowing pupils to remove or adjust items during the day (e.g., sweatshirts, ties) where regulation uniform impacts sensory or physical needs.

Parents and carers are encouraged to discuss any required adaptations with the Headteacher or SENDCo. Adaptations will be agreed on a case-by-case basis, ensuring that:

- The pupil's individual needs are at the centre of the decision.
- Adjustments are reasonable, practical and dignified.
- No pupil is disadvantaged or singled out for needing adapted uniform.

The school will work collaboratively with families to ensure that uniform supports pupils' wellbeing, inclusion and access to learning.

5.3 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 our Head Teacher 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.

5.4 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 our Headteacher.

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.

5.5 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context

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- 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 yearly.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy