



November 2022 UNIFORM POLICY.

Review date: November 2023

1 Introduction

At St Thomas' Catholic Voluntary Academy, it is our policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform is included in this policy; is available in the school prospectus and on the school website.

2 Aims and objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- is practical and smart.
- identifies the children with the school.
- prevents children from coming to school in fashion clothes that could be distracting in class.
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- is regarded as suitable wear for school.
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

3 Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are small plain gold or silver studs in pierced ears, small discreet watches, once a child can tell the time, and small objects of religious significance.

We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE and games.

Pupils should not wear earrings if they are attending swimming lessons.

Please bear this section of the policy in mind when arranging to have your child's ears pierced.





4 Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children e.g. Completely shaved heads; shaved designs; Mohawk cuts.

Pupils' hair should not be cut shorter than a 'grade 2' cut. Hair accessories such as hairbands, should be discreet and green in colour. Long hair should be tied up.

5 PE

On days the children have PE, including swimming, it is required that they should come to school in their PE kits (see appendix 1). PE kits are not to be kept in school. Parents will be informed of PE days – and any changes or additional PE days will be communicated with as much notice as possible. .

6 The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair. If the school has a problem with clothing that a pupil is wearing parents will be contacted to resolve the issue.

The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are reasons, for example on religious grounds or to account for an additional need or disability, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. To request an adjustment of the school's uniform policy for a child, parents should make an appointment to discuss this with the Headteacher. Any agreement will be then put into writing with reasons to why the adjustment is being made and what adjustment has been agreed.





There may be times when a child will not be in full uniform for the day for exceptional reasons (e.g their child's shoes have fallen to pieces and they have not yet been able to replace them). If this happens, parents are expected to speak to either the class teacher or the school office (via telephone if necessary) to explain why their child is not in uniform and to advise when they will be back in full uniform.

7 The role of school staff

School staff have a responsibility to enforce the uniform code and to remind children when they do not adhere to the policy.

Staff will give children a gentle reminder if they notice that they are not wearing the correct uniform. **This may happen anywhere in school.**

If a child is noted to have been in incorrect uniform for a period of several days without communication or is regularly in the wrong uniform, a letter will be sent home to advise parents.

If the uniform is still not correct, parents will be contacted and asked to come to see the Headteacher about their child's uniform.

The school will never exclude a child for wearing the wrong uniform, send them home to get changed or teach them in isolation.

8 The role of governors

The Governing Body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

If the Headteacher has had a request for an adjustment to the uniform policy and has declined that request, parents may request that the governors adjudicate whether the





adjustment should be allowed. Any request for the governors to adjudicate should be put in writing addressed to the Chair of Governors. If this does not resolve the issue then it should be dealt with formally through the complaints process starting at Stage 2.

Appendix 1

Uniform

Our dress code encourages children's pride in their appearance and to increase their feeling of belonging to a caring school. Summer uniform is from Easter to October half term. Children should come to school dressed in accordance with the code below:

Required Uniform

White shirt/ blouse with a school tie

Charcoal grey trousers/ green skirt/ pinafore dress

Green school jumper/ cardigan

With trousers - Dark, plain socks/ green tights

With skirt/ dress - Green tights or white socks

Black shoes

SUMMER – optional changes

Polo shirts (without a tie) can be worn in place of a shirt/ blouse (if a shirt/ blouse is worn – a tie must also be worn)

Charcoal grey shorts

Green/ white checked gingham dresses can be worn in place of a skirt/ pinafore dress

Black or brown sandals





PE Days

Required

Plain or school branded white t shirt

Plain black shorts

Trainers/pumps

Swimming- one piece swimming costume/shorts/trunks,towel. If hair is longer than shoulder length or longer a swimming hat is required.

Optional

Jogging pants/ PE leggings/ tracksuit trousers

A plain bottle green hoodie/ sweatshirt may also be worn – or a school jumper/ cardigan.

Swimming-goggles

Generic items are permitted but School branded items such as jumpers, cardigans, book bags are available from Morleys and Hamiltons. Tesco also do a limited range (online)

- Long hair should be tied back in a green headband or bobble
- No jewellery should be worn other than a watch and stud earrings. There should also be no nail varnish or make-up
- All children need to bring a coat to school when the weather is cold for play times.
- No large bags should be bought into school – we encourage all children to use a book bag
- Please make sure that all clothes are labelled.



Appendix 2

Non-uniform days

Non-uniform days are days when the uniform code is relaxed and children can wear their own clothes for the day. This does not mean that children can wear anything. The following items are not permitted to be worn on non-uniform days.

- Heelys
- High heels
- Overly cropped tops
- Hotpants
- Any clothing with rude or vulgar language/ symbols on that may cause offence

This list is not exhaustive, and we do expect parents to think about what they allow their children to wear on non-uniform days.