Uniform Policy

St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy

Approved by:	St Mary's Catholic Voluntary Academy	**Date:**	December 2024
Last reviewed on:	November 2026		
Next review due by:	November 2028		

This policy operates in line with our school mission, Catholic ethos and best safeguarding practice. St Mary's is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

1. Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

2. Aims and objectives

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers;
- has been 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, including earrings. If your child has newly pierced ears, please let us know; ears should be covered with tape each day and, after the 6 week period, earrings removed for school in the usual pattern. If your child wishes to wear a wrist watch, please ensure it is plain, flat and simple. Smart watches (or similar) are not appropriate for school; we also wish to avoid bulky watches, since they could present a potential hazard.

4. Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in school, so we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear the types of shoe described in the uniform list.

5. The role of Parents and Carers

We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents and carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their day. Parents and carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents and carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents and carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

6. School Uniform

A grey skirt/pinafore dress, navy cardigan or jumper with school logo, white blouse, school tie and grey, blue or white socks or tights. Summer Alternative: Blue and white dress with white socks.

Grey trousers, navy pullover with school logo, grey socks, white shirt and school tie. Summer Alternative: Grey shorts with grey socks.

All pupils should wear sensible black outdoor shoes rather than boots or other footwear.

Uniform that is school specific is available from Bulldog Fashions, 60 Surrey Street, Glossop SK13 7AJ and can be purchased in the shop or ordered online. https://bulldogfashions.co.uk/

Other items can be purchased from any high street store, according to preference.

7. PE Kit

White T-shirt, blue or black shorts.

Outdoor trainers, sweat top and jogging pants for outdoor activities when necessary.

It is worth noting that correct clothing can be vital for safety. No jewellery should be worn at any time and long hair should be tied back. All items of clothing should be clearly marked with the child's name.