



# Sacred Heart Primary CVA Uniform Policy

May 2023

# Uniform Policy

## Statement of intent

Sacred Heart Primary CVA believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

## 1.Roles and responsibilities

### **The governing board is responsible for:**

Establishing, in consultation with the Headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.

Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.

Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved in the uniform policy.

Ensuring compliance with the DfE's '[Cost of school uniforms](#)' guidance.

### **The Headteacher is responsible for:**

Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.

Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board.

**Staff members are responsible for:**

Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.

Disciplining pupils who are in breach of this policy.

Informing parents via Class Dojo message, the first two times in a half-term that breaches of the policy occurs

Informing the headteacher if there is a third time in a half-term.

Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

**Parents are responsible for:**

Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.

Informing the Headteacher/ class teacher if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.

Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Ensuring that every item is clearly labelled with their child's name

**Pupils are responsible for:**

Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Headteacher has granted an exemption.

Looking after their uniform as appropriate.

Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

**3. Cost principles**

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the Headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

Economically disadvantaged parents.

Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school.

Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently.

Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform due to costs.

LAC and PLAC.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

## **4. Equality principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

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 are 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 children to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons

Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality, by asking parents to get in touch with school who will respond to any requests

Ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard

uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

## **5. Complaints and challenges**

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Procedures Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Governors are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

## **6. School uniform supplier**

Our current school uniform supplier is:

<https://www.schoolwearsolutions.com/our-schools/sacred-heart-catholic-voluntary-academy/>

## **7. Uniform assistance**

The school holds second-hand school uniforms in the school office for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request. Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it.

## **8. Non-compliance**

If a child breaches this policy, staff members will speak to the child initially to remind them of uniform expectations, parents/carers will also be spoken to regarding any issues by the staff member. If a pupil is in breach of the policy three times in a half term a letter will be sent inviting the parents for a meeting with the headteacher.

**The school uniform is as follows:**

- Dark trousers or black or grey skirt
- Plain white shirt, blouse or polo shirt,
- Plain blue school jumper/cardigan (these items do not need to be branded)
- and black shoes.

Dark shorts can be worn in the Summer term as can blue check dresses.

Please make sure that clothes are clearly labelled with the child's name so they can be easily identified.

**PE kit is as follows:**

Plain black/navy shorts or plain black/navy tracksuit bottoms, plain white T-shirt, trainers for outside. A black, navy or school sweatshirt can also be worn in colder months.

PE kit should not have brand names visible.

Indoor PE is done in bare feet or black pumps.

**Jewellery:**

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school the exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears and a watch. We ask the children to either remove these objects during PE or cover them with a plaster. Pupils must bring in plasters from home to do this.

If a class is swimming, no earrings are allowed to be worn.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded.

**Hair Cuts and colours**

Pupils should have smart haircut with natural coloured hair.

## **9. Labelling**

All pupils' clothing and footwear must be clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for half term and is disposed of or repurposed if it is not collected within this time.

