

School Uniform Policy

Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending St. Joseph's Primary School, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus available on the website.

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 and good value for money by most parents; It is designed with health and safety in mind.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds children are not allowed to wear jewellery in school. If children persist in wearing jewellery we ask them to either remove these objects during PE, swimming and games, or cover them with plasters, to prevent them from causing injury. We advise parents to have ears pierced at the beginning of the summer holidays so that they can be removed during the school day from September. If the ears are not fully healed by September we ask parents to contact school to discuss this. All earrings are to be removed by October half term.

Extreme haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear smart black shoes as stated in the uniform list. If children wish to wear trainers or boots at break times they will be asked to change into black plimsolls during lesson time.

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 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, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

The role of governors

The LMB supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

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.

Monitoring and review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the head teacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- Requiring the head teacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.