Uniform Policy

St. Mary's RC Primary School

Mission Statement

We live learn and grow together with Jesus through:

- Showing love to all
- Encouraging friendship to include everybody
- Acting with honesty through prayer
- Being thankful for all God's gifts
- Remaining respectful through our actions
- Forgiving someone when they are sorry
- Displaying patience by being calm and caring
- Demonstrating compassion to everyone in God's family
- Leading in service by supporting our school community

Written by: Laura Wolstenholme
Date written: October 2026
Policy will be reviewed: Every Three Years

Introduction:

At St Mary's RC Primary School, we pride ourselves in being smart, well presented and ready for learning. It is our school policy that all children wear full school uniform when attending school or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We ask children to wear their polo tops tucked into their skirts, shorts or trousers and to take a pride in their personal appearance. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education is below.

Aims and Objectives:

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- creates a sense of community and belonging to the school family;
- 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;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

Please note: If a pupil arrives at school not in the correct uniform or not meeting the appearance and standards expected we may contact home for parents to remedy.

School Uniform List:

Parents are asked to provide a simple uniform for their child as follows:

Winter:

- Burgundy school jumper or cardigan with school logo
- Light blue polo shirt with or without a logo
- Grey checked or plain skirt
- Grey trousers or shorts
- Black school shoes (no trainers and no large logos)
- Black, grey or white socks
- Black, grey or burgundy tights

Summer:

Children may choose to wear a blue checked dress or grey shorts

School sweatshirts and polo shirts with embroidered logo are available from Abbey Street Accrington or Oswaldtwistle Mills.

P.E. / Sports:

- White plain t-shirt (without a logo or patterns)
- Black or navy plain shorts, leggings or jogging bottoms (without a logo or patterns)
- Black pumps or trainers

- School jumper or cardigan

Swimming:

- full one-piece swimming costume (no bikinis or tankinis)
- swimming trunks/shorts with gusset
- swimming hat (regardless of length of hair)

Goggles are NOT permitted unless there is a medical reason which has been identified in a letter from parents to school or the swimming teacher has identified a need for goggles.

All items of clothing are to be clearly labelled with child's name.

Footwear:

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes without logos as stated in the uniform list above. For health and safety reasons, we do not allow the wearing of boots or wellingtons in school. Staff will accommodate the need for boots in cold weather by allowing children to change from their shoes for outdoor time.

Jewellery, Hair, Makeup and Nail Varnish:

For many reasons, including safety, we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears and small objects of religious significance such as a crucifix on a chain. Children are required to remove any items during P.E. or swimming lessons to prevent them from causing injury. This is in line with the Association for Physical Education (AFPE). It is not sufficient to simply cover earrings with tape or plasters. Children wearing earrings for swimming or PE will not be permitted to take part. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings. Pupils' hair, if long, should be tied back for practical subjects. Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either burgundy, light blue, grey, white or black to match our uniform. Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school. Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school this includes hair dye, part shaving, patterns and tram lines. All pupils' hair should be groomed and not cut too short. As a guide, hair should be cut no shorter than a number 2. Whilst it is difficult to stipulate exactly what is and what isn't allowed, the overall aim is to make sure that pupils look smart and presentable for school.

If you are unsure of any uniform requirements, please contact school for clarification before making your purchases. If any disputes arise, the head teacher or a member of our senior leadership team will make the final decision.

The Role of Parents:

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is visibly labelled on all items. If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a member of our senior leadership team to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our lost property to wear for that day if possible. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit or come to school in incorrect kit. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter.
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 Uniform Policy will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request an exception to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the Headteacher and then the Governors.

Monitoring and Review:

The Headteacher will revisit and, where necessary, revise the uniform policy after three years. The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by: considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform; requiring the headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.