



Saint Paul's Catholic High School

Moving forward together. Achievement for all!

UNIFORM POLICY



Journeying together with Jesus Christ, we learn to love and love to learn.

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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers

Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

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 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 all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments (See Appendix 1)
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Mrs Cropper, Senior Assistant Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

The school give £100 towards school uniform costs to parents/ carers of our Year 7, new intake, pupils.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirement for different year groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform (Essential)

Please see below the school's uniform list (See Appendix 1 Imagery)

- Black Saint Paul's badged jumper (school logo)
- Black school blazer (optional item must have school logo)
- Plain white school shirt with collar
- School tie
- Knee length 'kilt' style black and white tartan skirt (school specific)
- Black trousers. Trousers must be made from formal materials such as wool, polyester blends, or other suiting fabrics. They should not be tight-fitting, and materials like leggings, jeggings, or stretch jersey are not permitted.
- Plain black tights/ankle socks
- Plain black school shoes (See Appendix 2 Imagery)
- Religious dress (Hijab plain black)
- Jewellery and piercings - 1 pair of small studs/sleepers in lower earlobe
- Plain black headband/bobbles
- Wristwatch only (smart watches are not permitted)
- Students should bring a bag suitable to carry their books (A4 size), reading book, writing equipment and sports kit for every lesson.

Our school PE kit (Essential)

- Black polo shirt (school logo)
- Plain black socks
- Black shorts (no cycling shorts)
- Clean training shoes
- Shin pads
- Gum shield (contact sports – Page 14 RUGBYSAFE TOOLKIT)

Representing school teams/clubs and the kit below (Essential)

- Football boots (no metal studs)
- Shin pads
- Plain black football socks

Additional Branded Saint Paul's PE kit can be purchased and personalised with surnames and initials from kit locker (See Appendix 3 Imagery - any issues please contact Mr. Mawn Head of PE at school).

PE Kit (Optional)

- Saint Paul's badged, black PE Department hoodie (initials optional)
- Saint Paul's badged, black PE Department zip training top
- Plain black jogging bottoms
- Plain black sports waterproof jacket
- Black Nike Park III shorts
- Black Nike Park 20 repel rain jacket
- Black Nike Dri-fit Park 20 Tech pants
- Black Nike Park VII Dri-FIT Short sleeve shirt
- Black Nike Dri-FIT Match fit over the calf socks
- Black Nike Dr-FIT 20 Knitted track jacket

The following items are not permitted in school:

- Baseball caps, Hats, caps, sunglasses
- Training shoes (outside of PE lesson)
- Boots
- Canvas trainers
- Hooded tops and hooded sweaters
- Denim skirts, jeans and jackets or leather jackets
- Culottes, cargo pants or track suits
- Excessive Make up and nail varnish or artificial nails, false nails/eyelashes
- Fitted shirts
- Skinny trousers/non-pleated skirts
- Leggings
- Socks over tights
- Jewellery – rings, necklaces, bracelets etc.
- Facial Piercings – nose, tongue, lips, eyebrows
- Non-natural hair colouring, extreme hair styles
- Shaved hair/eyebrow patterns

Items outlined above will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. Students who repeatedly fail to adhere to the school uniform policy may have items confiscated until the end of term. Jewellery and items of sentimental value are expensive, and parents must understand that we will not be liable for their safekeeping.

Expectations for jewellery and hairstyles (considering the requirement described above to avoid discrimination in line with the Equality Act 2010)

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Branded items: Debonair, Civic Centre, Wythenshawe. All Year 7 students (starting September 2026) will receive a £100 voucher to assist with branded items from Debonair.
<https://debonairschoolwearwythenshawe.co.uk/>
- Some second-hand items of uniform are available. To check whether items are available please contact Kat Parr, Family Support Worker in Safeguarding, at Saint Paul's for further information.
- Families may qualify for additional items of free school uniform from Wood Street Mission.

*The Wood Street Mission Smart Start initiative, have a free School Uniform Project. It is designed to support families in Manchester and Salford. Their free uniform packs include: 4 polo shirts or 4 shirts/blouses, 1 pair of trousers or a skirt, 1 sweatshirt. **Uniform available for students at Saint Paul's would be a 4 pack of shirts and 1 pair of trousers.***

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs Cropper, Senior Assistant Headteacher, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact Mrs Cropper, Senior Assistant Headteacher, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. Students are greeted at the gate each morning and uniform is checked. Staff will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Pastoral Leaders and persistent breaches of uniform will lead to further sanctions as outlined in the Behaviour Policy.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Considers the views of parents/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually, in the Summer Term. At every review, it will be approved by the Governing Body and the Chair of Governors is Mr Marciniak.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality policy
- SEND policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

Appendix 1 – Uniform Imagery

Official School Uniform List

- Black Saint Paul’s badged jumper
- Plain white school shirt with collar (tucked in)
- School tie
- Knee length ‘kilt’ style black and white tartan skirt
- Black trousers (no jeans). Trousers must be made from formal materials such as wool, polyester blends, or other suiting fabrics. They should not be tight-fitting, and materials like leggings, jeggings, or stretch jersey are not permitted.
- Plain black tights/ankle socks
- Plain black school shoes (no trainers or boots)
- Religious dress (Hijab plain black)
- Jewellery and piercings - 1 pair of small studs/sleepers in lower earlobe
- Plain black headband/bobbles
- Wristwatch only (smart watches are not permitted)
- Black school blazer (optional)
- Students should bring a bag suitable to carry their books (A4 size), reading book, writing equipment and sports kit for every lesson.



All Students in Year 7 to 11 are required to wear full uniform. We have zero tolerance policy towards incorrect uniform.

The school uniform is available from Debonair, Civic Centre, Wythenshawe.

<https://debonairschoolwearwythenshawe.co.uk/>

PE Kit (Essential)

- Black polo shirt (Saint Paul’s badged)
- Plain black socks
- Black shorts (no cycling shorts)
- Clean training shoes
- Shin pads
- Gum shield (contact sports – Page 14 RUGBYSAFE TOOLKIT)



Representing school teams/clubs

- Football boots (no metal studs)
- Shin pads
- Plain black football socks



Footwear Policy

Examples of shoes which **are** permitted to be worn at school:



Examples of shoes which **are not** permitted to be worn at school:



Shoes should be plain black in colour, flat soled, made of leather/faux leather, and not overly decorative.

NEW! - All-black leather Nike Air Force 1s are permitted (as pictured) No other editions will be accepted.

Be ready to learn.

BELONG . BELIEVE . ACHIEVE

Appendix 3 – Optional PE Kit Imagery

PE Kit (Optional)

- Saint Paul's badged, black PE Department hoodie
- (initials optional)
- Saint Paul's badged, black PE Department zip training top
- Plain black jogging bottoms
- Plain black sports waterproof jacket
- Black Nike Park III shorts
- Black Nike Park 20 repel rain jacket
- Black Nike Dri-fit Park 20 Tech pants
- Black Nike Park VII Dri-FIT Short sleeve shirt
- Black Nike Dri-FIT Match fit over the calf socks
- Black Nike Dr-FIT 20 Knitted track jacket

Additional Branded Saint Paul's PE kit can be purchased and personalised with surnames and initials from kit locker (any issues please contact Mr Mawn Head of PE at Saint Paul's).

<https://www.kitlocker.com/education/school/saint-paul-s-catholic-high-school>

