

School Uniform Policy

St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School



Approved by:

Date: September 2023

Last reviewed on: September 2023

Next review due by: September 2024

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

Principles

At St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, we pride ourselves in looking smart by wearing our school uniform. Wearing uniform promotes a sense of community within the school and allows children to demonstrate their pride in their school, both within school and when they are out in the local community.

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 towards the school
- Is practical and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Makes children feel equal to one another in terms of appearance
- Reflects the sense both of community and of diversity that the school takes pride in
- Is regarded as suitable and good value for money
- Is designed with health and safety in mind

All children (Nursery – Year 6) need:

- Bottle green sweatshirt or cardigan with St. Bernadette's school logo
- Yellow polo shirt with St. Bernadette's school logo
- Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore dress
- Grey/white/black socks
- Bottle green or grey tights
- Plain black flat school shoes without logos
- In warmer months the children may wear green checked summer dresses or grey tailored shorts
- Children in Nursery, Reception, Year 1 and 2 will need a school book bag to keep reading books, homework and school letters in

For PE all children (Reception – Year 6) need:

- Bottle green T shirt with St. Bernadette's school logo
- Plain, non-branded black shorts, leggings, joggers
- Plain, non-branded black hoodie
- White or black socks
- Non-branded Black trainers (suitable sports trainers not fashion trainers. Logos must be kept to a minimum)
- Full PE kit should be worn for sporting events and after school clubs. School will provide children with a school football/rugby/sport TShirt to be returned after the event.

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 with their main school uniform; 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.

All children are required to wear plain black shoes or trainers without logos as stated in the uniform list. If boots are worn these should also be plain black.

Trainers

For playtimes and lunchtimes children can change into outdoor trainers however they must be able to independently change their footwear during the break period.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school.

Growing Together in Faith, Love and Learning

The exceptions to this rule are:

- Spacers for recently pierced ears.
- Small watch/fitbit which tells the time. No SMART phones are allowed.

We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games and swimming this is to prevent injuries. If they cannot be removed, to cover them with a plaster brought from home. The school advises parents who wish their children to have their ears pierced to do so at the beginning of the school holidays.

Teachers are prohibited from removing or replacing earrings & the school will accept no responsibility for accidents caused by the wearing of jewellery.

Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems eg. Diabetes or epilepsy.

Make up and Nail Varnish

Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco or summer fair.

Hair

We also request that long hair is tied back if the hair touches the shoulders or is longer. Only reasonably sized hair accessories are worn.

There should be no extremes of hairstyles. Shaved hair should be a minimum of number 3 and 'tramlines' are not acceptable. Parents of any child that has a haircut that we feel is extreme will be asked to amend their hair cut at the earliest convenience. We respectfully request that children who have a long fringe wear a hair band to allow them to see clearly when engaged in learning activities.

For swimming all long hair should be tied back and children must wear a swimming cap.

Uniform is available to purchase from stockists such as Slaters in Wigan or Impressions in Standish.

Water

Children are encouraged to drink plain water throughout the school day. Children should bring and take home a water bottle each day, to be cleaned. Research suggests children should aim to hydrate with plain, natural drinks that are unsweetened and free from additives. Also adequately hydrated children may perform better in school.

Labelling

All clothing and bags should be clearly labelled with your child's full name. This is especially important, as uniform items look similar and can easily be confused for another child's. The school cannot accept responsibility for any lost items.

Pencil Cases

Pencil cases can be brought into school from home in Year 5 and 6. They must adhere to our safeguarding and online safety policies. Staff reserve the right to remove the pencil case if it is causing a distraction.

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 the Class Teachers and Support Staff

- Set a good example in terms of dress.
- Wear PE to model good practice.
- Remember that in our respective roles we serve the local community as a set of professionals.
- To remind children to wear school uniform. The class teacher will remind children/parents who do not wear the correct uniform. If they continue to wear incorrect uniform, they will be referred to the Headteacher.

The role of the Headteacher

The Headteacher will ensure that pupils comply with the uniform policy agreed by the governing body. The Headteacher has a duty to enforce the school uniform throughout the school community, as part of the duty within maintenance of day to day discipline in the school. The Headteacher will speak to the parents of children who persistently do not wear the correct uniform. The school will follow the DfE guidelines where a pupil fails to comply with the school's rules on uniform.

The role of governors

The governing body 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.

Equalities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the set uniform respects other policies such as Equalities and allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals. St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

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 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.

APPENDIX 1 – STANDARD LETTER TO PARENTS Re. CORRECT UNIFORM

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer, Child's name: Class:

We noticed that your child did not wear their uniform to school today. I'm sure you will appreciate the many advantages of our uniform policy, both at home and at school. As our policy states:

'At St. Bernadette's Catholic Primary School, we believe that the wearing of a school uniform enables children to identify with their school, gives a sense of belonging, is practical, smart, reinforces a positive work ethos & reduces expenditure for parents/carers.'

I would be very grateful therefore, if you could make sure that your child dresses appropriately every school day.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Helen Crowder

APPENDIX 2 – STANDARD LETTER TO PARENTS Re. INAPPROPRIATE EARRINGS

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer, Child's name: Class:

We noticed that your child has been wearing inappropriate earrings to school. These are not only felt to be of a high risk in terms of Health & Safety, but also go against our policy on uniform, which states: 'On Health & Safety grounds, children are not permitted to wear jewellery to school apart from a watch & stud pierced earrings'.

I would be very grateful therefore, if you could make sure that your child only wears earrings which are appropriate to school.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Helen Crowder

APPENDIX 3 – STANDARD LETTER TO PARENTS Re. EARRINGS DURING PE LESSONS

Date:

Dear Parent/Carer, Child's name: Class:

We noticed that your child cannot remove his / her own earrings for PE Lessons. It is our school policy that earrings must be removed during PE on Health & Safety grounds.

Our policy states: 'We ask children to remove earrings during PE lessons, or if they cannot be removed, to cover them with a plaster brought from home. Alternatively, earrings could be removed by parents during the evening before a PE lesson. This is to prevent injuries. Parents of the children who cannot remove their earrings (due to having them pierced in the last 6 weeks) or who cannot apply plasters themselves, will be informed to make alternative arrangements for the following week. Teachers are prohibited from removing or replacing earrings & the school will accept no responsibility for accidents caused by the wearing of jewellery.

I would be very grateful therefore, if you could make arrangements in order that your child does not miss any more lessons of PE.

Thank you for your support in this matter.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. Helen Crowder