Uniform Policy

Last Reviewed: September 2025

Next Review: September 2026

Implementation from: October 2025

Cycle: Annual

Contents:

Vision Statement

Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. Roles and responsibilities
3. Cost principles
4. Equality principles
5. Complaints and challenges
6. Non-compliance
7. School uniform
8. Adverse weather
9. Labelling
10. Monitoring and review

Vision Statement

At St Joseph's we can do anything through Christ who gives us strength to nurture a school where we respect each other through feeling safe and supported. In Christ we live and learn together providing inspiring opportunities to be the best we can be. To take pride in our school and where we come from. Just as Jesus worked side by side with St Joseph the worker, we will work together to:

- Provide a welcoming environment based on trust and mutual respect.
- Be ready to learn at all times
- Be inclusive and understanding
- Celebrate success
- Commit to having high expectations

Statement of intent

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School 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.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- 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.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

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.
- 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 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 uniform is clearly labelled with 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.

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 every day.

The school keeps variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, e.g. year group-specific items or house colours, to a minimum where possible to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform possible and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Where the school decides to require an item of branded clothing, it will conduct an assessment to ensure prices are kept as low as possible, e.g. by offering sew- or iron-on

logo badges for jumpers that can be bought at retailers instead of requiring special branded jumpers.

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 works with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible and does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements. More information on supplier processes can be found in the 'School uniform supplier' section of this policy.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

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.

The school will work to ensure that school uniform's cost does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out in section 3.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

The school 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.

School uniform supplier

Our current school uniform suppliers are:

- Pinders School Wear

Online and Shops locally at Aston/ Crystal Peaks/ Rotherham]

https://pindersschoolwear.com/schools/163/StJosephsDinnington

- Logo Leisurewear

https://logoleisurewear.com/product-category/schools/schools-st-josephs-catholic-primary-school-dinnington/

- Andy Hyde Clothing

https://ahyde.co.uk/collections/st-josephs-catholic-primary

Uniform assistance

The school supports vulnerable families in meeting the costs of uniforms.

All children receive their first school tie free of charge on starting school.

This is for pupils in Foundation Stage or for in-year Admissions.

The school holds pre-loved / second-hand school uniforms in the school office for parents to access; access to these uniforms is available upon request made to the Headteacher or school Admin staff via the school office. Pre-loved uniform will be handed out if it is available to all in-year admissions on registration at school.

Parents are invited to donate their child's uniform when they no longer need it, so that a supply of pre-loved clothing is always readily available.

Non-compliance

Staff members are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

The headteacher, or a person authorised by the headteacher, is permitted to ask a pupil to briefly go home to remedy breaches to the school's uniform.

Due to the age of our children parents will be contacted by the school office to rectify the uniform breeches. Parents should bring the correct uniform to school, if a child is taken home to rectify uniform breaches, the absence is to be recorded as 'authorised'.

School uniform

- Blue school shirt (not polo shirts)
- Navy knitted school jumper or cardigan (V neck)
- Grey formal trousers / skirt or pinafore dress
- Grey formal shorts just above the knee may be worn.
- Black leather fitted school shoes/trainers
- Grey or black socks / Grey or black tights
- School tie
- Blue Gingham dress (Easter onwards) worn with white ankle socks

PE kit

- Navy school PE shorts (not cycling shorts)
- Grey polo shirt with embroidered logo
- Grey embroidered hoody
- Navy tracksuit bottoms (plain jogging bottoms)
- Trainers

- Skirts must be knee-length.
- NO Black jeans or leggings are not permitted.

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child wears their PE kit on the appropriate days.

-

Jewellery

Permitted jewellery that may be worn is:.

- **A sensible wrist watch. [no fit bits/ smart watches to be worn]**

No earrings are permitted to be worn in school.

No other jewellery is permitted, unless it is worn for religious or medical identification reasons

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. **All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE lessons and science experiments.**

Hairstyles

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each

individual pupil's scenario will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE or Science experiments/ Practical Art/ DT Sessions.

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured, dyed hair.
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours.
- Excessive hair accessories. **- hair accessories should be plain and in line with school colours; large bows and fussy headbands should be avoided.**

Makeup

The school rules on makeup are as follows:

- **Makeup is not permitted to be worn by pupils.**
- **False nails and nail extensions are not permitted.**
- **Only clear nail varnish may be worn.**
- **Temporary tattoos are not permitted.**

Pupils wearing excessive makeup are required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it.

Adverse weather

All pupils are required to wear weather-appropriate clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible during adverse weather.

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Loose-fitting and lightweight shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered necklines.
- Over the knee skirts, shorts or trousers.
- Tops that cover the shoulder area.
- Sunglasses with UV protection when outside, where possible.

Pupils are advised not to wear any jumpers or coats during heatwaves. If outside during break times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun, or spare clothing is provided.

For cold temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Scarfs, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.
- Warm jumpers that conform to the school's uniform policy.
- Trousers, or thick tights with skirts.

1. Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name. **This is parental responsibility.**

Any lost clothing is be taken to the lost property box in the **school office**. All lost property is retained for **one week** and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

2. Monitoring and review

This policy is reviewed annually by the **chair of governors** and the **headteacher**.

The scheduled review date for this policy is September 2026.