



'Christ at the centre, children at the heart'

Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic Multi-Academy Trust will deliver outstanding educational, spiritual and moral outcomes for all children regardless of their faith or backgrounds within an ethos based on full inclusion, high expectations, innovation, outstanding teaching and learning, and a relentless focus on the needs and potential of every child. Our vision is that every Academy within the Trust has a reputation for excellence in their local communities and beyond.

Our Lady of Walsingham Catholic MAT

Company No: 08444133

**Registered Office: Fordham Road, Newmarket, Suffolk, CB8
7AA**

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

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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 and
- clarify our Trust and individual school expectations for school uniform.

2. Our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, we 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 ask for this to be tied back);
- allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons;
- allow pupils to wear agreed religious or cultural symbols; and
- allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the school (see school annexation for contact details) who can respond to questions and any requests about the policy.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

The Trust has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have 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' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our schools' uniforms:

- are available at a reasonable cost; and
- provide 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 e.g. only asking that any blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo;
- limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost 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 leveler;
- avoiding significant different uniform requirements for different year/class/house 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 to acquire second-hand uniform items;
- avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes; and
- consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

4. Expectations for school uniform

All school specific expectations are detailed in Annexation 1 to this policy

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; and
- 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 the nominated school lead (see annexation) 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 are also expected to contact the nominated school lead (see annexation) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- their child's protected characteristics; and
- the cost of the uniform.

Parents 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; and
- dealt with in accordance with our OLOW Trust complaints policy.

All schools will aim to work closely with parents in order to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with school leadership if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by reference to individual school's Behaviour Policies. 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 OLOW Trust Board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- is appropriate for our schools' context;
- is implemented fairly across all schools;
- takes into account the views of parents and pupils; and
- offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.

The Board will also make sure that schools' uniform suppliers 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 every 2 years.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to school and Trust level:

- Behaviour policy;
- Equality information and objectives statement;
- Anti-bullying policy;
- Complaints policy; and
- Health & Safety Policy

St Mary's Catholic Primary School Policy annexation



St Mary's School Uniform Information

Jewellery

Jewellery is not appropriate for school wear. Pupils with pierced ears may wear small studs but these need to be removed for PE. If a child is unable to remove their earrings due to initial healing time, micropore tape (or equivalent) needs to be provided for the child to cover their earrings. After consultation with the Headteacher, where deemed appropriate, religious jewellery may be worn.

Watches

KS2 children may wear a small watch. Watches which make calls, take videos or photos are **not** permitted.

Lost Property

Please ensure that all items of clothing are **clearly and permanently marked with your child's name.**

We do not keep a 'lost property box' but try to return unclaimed items as soon as possible to their owners – this is only possible if there are names on the items. Unclaimed items are eventually thrown away or given to the PTA for recycling.

Nominated school lead is Joanne Berry

UNIFORM LIST

The uniform items that specifically need to be bought from Coes (Norwich Road) are listed below. The other items can be bought at the shop of your choice e.g. Tesco, Primark. Please note that our PTA sell second hand uniform at a very reduced rate.

Winter

Reception Class

Plain white polo shirt

Grey pinafore

Plain navy blue jogging bottoms

Grey or navy tights / grey, navy or white socks

School V-necked sweater with logo **(Coes)**

Black shoes

KS1

Grey pinafore or skirt

Dark grey trousers

Plain white polo shirt

Grey or navy tights / grey, navy or white socks

Black shoes

School V-necked sweater with logo **(Coes)**

KS2

Grey pinafore or skirt

Dark grey trousers

Plain white shirt (not blouse)

School tie **(Coes)**

Grey or navy tights / grey, navy or white socks

Black shoes

School V-necked sweater with school logo **(Coes)**

Summer

Reception Class

Mid-blue and white small checked gingham summer dress

Plain white polo shirt

Plain navy jogging bottoms / shorts
Grey, navy or white socks
School V-necked sweater with logo **(Coes)**
Black shoes

KS1

Mid-blue and white small checked gingham summer dress
Dark grey shorts or trousers
Grey pinafore or skirt
Plain white polo shirt
School V-necked sweater with logo **(Coes)**
White, navy or grey socks
Black shoes (no sandals)

KS2

Mid-blue and white small checked gingham summer dress
Dark grey shorts or trousers
Grey pinafore or skirt
Plain white shirt (not blouse)
School tie **(Coes)**
School V-necked sweater with logo **(Coes)**
White, navy or grey socks
Black shoes (no sandals)

PE Kit

School logo PE top **(Coes)**
Navy shorts
Plain navy jogging bottoms (for winter)
Trainers/Astros