



**St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School
Egerton Road,
Bishopston
Bristol,
BS7 8HP**

School Uniform Policy 2023

Policy Owner	Sarah Ballantine
Governing Body Committee	Standards
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This policy is available at

<http://www.st-bonaventures.bristol.sch.uk/>



Vision

At St Bonaventure's Catholic Primary School we strive to be the best we can, guided by the light of Christ. Our children have open hearts and minds, a sense of awe and wonder and a love for each other, themselves and God.

We want our children to look smart when at school and feel proud to wear their school uniform.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Clarify our expectations for school uniform.
- 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.

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, 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 pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments.
- 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 to get in touch with the head teacher who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis.



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 on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (items that have to have a school logo) 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.

Therefore, 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.
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items.
- 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 requirements for different year/class/house groups.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- 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.
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform

Main uniform:

- Navy blue sweatshirt or cardigan with school logo. (This is the only part of the uniform that requires a logo) Branded sweatshirts/cardigans can be purchased from Monkhouse Suppliers or second hand uniform shop. Iron on badges are available from the school office to attach to non branded sweatshirts which can be purchased plain from high street retailers.
- White or navy blue polo-shirt or shirt/blouse.



- Navy blue or grey trousers or shorts.
- Navy blue or grey skirt or pinafore dress. These should be knee length. Cycling shorts can be worn underneath in the summer.
- Blue checked dress/playsuit for the summer.
- Navy blue, grey or white tights.
- Navy blue, grey or white socks.
- Black school shoes, trainers or boots for winter.
- Sensible summer sandals, plain colour, can be worn in summer months. Socks must be worn with these.

PE kit:

- Plain white t-shirt (no branding required).
- Navy blue shorts or skirt in summer months (no branding/sports logo).
- Navy blue tracksuit bottoms/sports leggings in winter months (no branding/sports logo).
- Trainers.

Swimming kit:

Children in Years 2-6 attend swimming sessions. Children will need to have:

- One piece swimming costume or fitted swim shorts.
- Towel.
- Goggles (if children like to use them).
- Swimming cap.

Hair, Jewellery and accessories:

- No jewellery allowed except for a watch and only small, plain studs if children have pierced ears. These need to be covered with tape during PE.
- Watches – to be analogue or digital. No smart watches. Fitbits are allowed.
- Dyed hair or shaved tramlines are not allowed.
- Nail varnish should not be worn in school.

Bags:

- School book bag (with or without St Bonaventure's logo) and/or small rucksack for pupils in Reception-Year 2 only.
- KS2 pupils are encouraged to bring one rucksack that can hold all of the equipment they will need for their day.



Where to purchase it

New uniform items with the St Bonaventure's school logo can only be purchased from Monkhouse either at their shop (Stoke Gifford, Unit 1 Simmonds View, Stoke Gifford, Bristol, BS34 8HQ) or from their website

<https://www.monkhouse.com/catalog/category/view/id/6860/>

All other uniform items without the St Bonaventure's logo can be purchased from high street retailers.

Alternatively, our Parent, Teacher and Friends Association, PTFA, have a pre-loved uniform shop where all items of uniform can be purchased.

Expectations for our school community

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 the head teacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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 head teacher 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 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Staff:

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they wear the correct uniform. They 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 the head teacher.

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.

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.
- Takes into account the views of parents 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.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the head teacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing body.

Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Relationship and Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy