


# St Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School School Uniform Policy



This policy was adopted by the governing body of St Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School	<b>Date: March 2025</b> <b>Review Date: September 2027</b>
<b>By Name:</b>	<b>Miss N Spragg</b>
<b>Position and signature:</b>	 <b>Chair of Governors</b>

***‘Following Jesus, we love, learn  
and serve’***

## **Statement of intent**

St Anthony of Padua Catholic Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital for:

- Promoting the ethos of a school.
- Providing a sense of belonging and identity.
- Setting an appropriate tone for education.

For the purposes of this policy, “uniform” includes the following elements of pupils’ appearance:

- Clothing, including the school uniform itself, variations of the school uniform such as PE kits, and other clothing worn at school, e.g. non-uniform.
- Hairstyles and headwear.
- Jewellery and other accessories.
- Cosmetics such as makeup and nail polish.

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, is affordable, and provides the best value for money for both 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 a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

## **Legal framework**

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) ‘Cost of school uniforms’
- DfE (2021) ‘School Admissions Code’
- [Updated] DfE (2024) ‘School uniforms: guidance for schools’
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) ‘Preventing hair discrimination in schools’

## **Roles and responsibilities**

### **The governing board is responsible for:**

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible, inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating in this policy how best value for money has been achieved. · Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms.

### **The headteacher is responsible for:**

- Enforcing the school's uniform rules 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 shirt.

### **Staff are responsible for:**

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Where appropriate to their role, 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 an exemption to the uniform rules for a period of time, with a reason why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

### **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 will develop its uniform policy in relation to the following starting principles:

- The school will seek to ensure that the uniform is affordable. In so doing, the school will consider the total cost of school uniforms, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school.
- The school will seek to keep the use of branded items to a minimum.
- The school will seek to ensure that uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, including the quality and durability of the garment.
- The school will seek to ensure that second-hand uniforms are available for parents to acquire. Information on second-hand uniforms will be published on the school's website.

## **Principles in practice**

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform requirements do 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.
- 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 will keep 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, e.g. supermarkets, due to the item's logo, colour, design, fabric or other unique element. Where the school requires an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this. This may include:

- Offering sew- or iron-on logo patches for blazers and jumpers that can be bought at non-specialist retailers, instead of requiring specific branded jumpers.
- Ensuring branded items are longer-lasting and unlikely to be grown out of quickly, e.g. ties.
- Making donated second-hand uniform available for purchase at a lower price.

The school will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will work with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated will be passed to parents where possible. The school will 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 make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

## **Equality Principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any pupil very seriously.

In line with the above, the school will aim to ensure that its uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

The school will ensure that parents and pupils are consulted over any changes to school uniform, and that, where appropriate and with pupils' consent. Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the headteacher and governing board, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy. Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined below.

## **Complaints and Challenges**

The school will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy. The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Procedures Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein. When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome. The school has an agreed procedure in place with its uniform supplier to deal with complaints about the supply and quality of uniforms.

In considering a complaint, parents should be aware that teachers can sanction pupils for breaching the school's rules on appearance or uniform. The school expects this to be carried out in accordance with the school's published behaviour policy. The school aims to deal with pupil non-compliance in a proportionate and fair way.

## **School uniform supplier**

The school's current school uniform supplier is:

<b>Supplier:</b> Kitted Out School Allerton Road Liverpool L18 2DG 0151 733 5533 <a href="#">School uniforms within the Liverpool area   Kitted Out – Kitted Out Schoolwear</a>	<b>Supplier:</b> Skiequip Brinksway Stockport SK3 0BZ 07949030230 <a href="#">Ski Clothing and Accessories</a>
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## **Non-compliance**

Parents will be notified of pupils' breaches of school uniform in all cases.

## School uniform

### Clothing

The school uniform is as follows:

Item	Optional or required	Branding	How to acquire
<b>Reception Uniform</b>			
<b>There is no summer uniform for children in Reception</b>			
Black Tracksuit	Required	School Logo	Kitted Out Ski Equip
White Polo Shirt	Required	Parental choice – Polo shirts with a logo or plain polos are acceptable	Kitted Out Ski Equip Supermarkets
Plain Black Shoes (Velcro)	Required	N/A	Highstreet/ Supermarkets
<b>Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Formal Uniform</b>			
Brown jumper/cardigan	Required	School logo	Kitted Out Ski Equip
White Shirt	Required	No branding	Highstreet/ Supermarkets
School Tie	Required	Yes	Kitted Out Ski Equip
Grey or black trousers or knee-length grey skirt	Required	No branding	Highstreet/ Supermarkets
Sensible, plain black shoes (not trainers) See additional shoe support sheet for further clarification	Required	No branding	Highstreet/ Supermarkets

<b>Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 PE kit</b>			
Black Tracksuit Top	Required	Yes	Kitted Out Ski Equip
Black Tracksuit Pants	Required	Yes	Kitted Out Ski Equip
Plain Black Trainers (no white signs or logos)	Required	N/A	Highstreet/ Supermarkets
<b>Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Summer Uniform – This can be worn for the Summer Term Only</b>			
Polo Shirt	Optional	Parental choice – Polo shirts with a logo or plain polos are acceptable	Kitted Out Ski Equip Supermarkets
Yellow Summer Dress	Optional	No	Kitted Out Ski Equip Supermarkets

### **Hairstyles and headwear**

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons.

Children with short hair that does not cover their face should not wear football style bands in their hair.

### **Watches and Jewellery**

Children may wear a simple analogue or digital watch. Smartwatches are not permitted, and children will be asked to remove these should they decide to wear them.

The only jewellery item that is permitted to be worn in school are stud earrings.

### **Makeup and cosmetics**

Children should not wear makeup, nail polish or false nails for school. Parents will be contacted immediately by the child's class teacher should this occur.

### **Labelling and lost property**

Parents are advised to clearly label all pupils' clothing and footwear with their name and year group.



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