



ST. EDMUND'S
R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

<i>Date Policy Approved:</i>	<i>15th June 2022</i>
<i>Date Endorsed by Governors:</i>	<i>15th June 2022</i>

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

We come to a Roman Catholic School and so believe that Jesus was born, died and rose again for everyone. We aim to help, encourage and show God's way to our families, making sure that our Catholic traditions and faith are kept alive. Each year at school, we learn a little bit more about our faith so that we can grow to love God and each other more.

At our schools, we seek at all times to be a witness to Jesus Christ. We remember this when putting our policies into practice. Therefore, this policy will reflect the Catholic identity and mission of our schools and the values it proclaims.

Guidance from the DfE: 'In all schools, governing bodies decide whether there should be a school uniform and other rules relating to pupils' appearance and, if so, what they should be. Non-statutory guidance on school uniform and related policies is available on our website.'

Rationale

This policy sets out what is required practically for classroom lessons, indoor & outdoor P.E. and swimming lessons. Governors have taken into account their obligations under the Equality Act 2010 as well as consideration to the school's health & safety & safeguarding policies.

Introduction

At St. Edmund's, we are very proud to be a 'uniformed school' as it plays a valuable role in contributing to our school's ethos and it sets an appropriate tone. From our experience, we know that our clear school uniform policy:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school, positive behaviour, high standards, respect, responsibility and good discipline
- Encourages a sense of community and identity towards the school and our mission
- Ensures that all children feel welcomed and included
- Protects children from social pressures to dress in a particular way and helps all children feel equal to their peers in terms of their appearance
- Nurtures cohesion, promoting positive relationships for all children
- Helps safeguard the health and safety of our children

Above all, wearing a school uniform supports effective teaching and learning and will prepare children for the next stage of their education and beyond.

Consultation

Following the covid-19 pandemic and for the start of the school year in 2020-21, school leaders consulted with pupils, parents, staff and governors about the possibility of relaxing our school uniform. This was met with a resounding 'no'. The majority of the community voted to keep our school uniform 'smart' and this forms our current policy. Governors have researched feeder high schools and their expectations have informed our school policy. However, governors and school leaders are mindful of additional expenditure for parents and therefore our school sweatshirts can either be plain 'navy blue' or with the school logo.

When accepting a place at St. Edmund's, parents are agreeing to ensure that their child is wearing the correct school uniform.

School uniform requirements

It is our school policy that all children must wear school uniform when attending school or when participating in official school organised events outside normal school hours. The uniform options are as follows:

Plain 'sky blue' shirt or polo style t-shirt

Plain navy blue sweatshirt or school logo navy blue sweatshirt (available from our stockist, Ziggy's)

Grey or black tailored trousers

Grey or black tailored skirt or pinafore

Plain black shoes or plain black trainers (no logos)

Plain black, grey or white socks

Summer terms – blue or yellow gingham-style dresses or knee length tailored shorts.

Children will require a warm and waterproof coat as they will play outside everyday.

P.E. kit

Plain white round neck or polo style t-shirt

Plain black or navy blue P.E. shorts

Plain black plimsolls or trainers

NO jewellery (earrings must be removed by the child)

Winter terms – leggings or black/navy/grey jogging bottoms are suitable for outdoor P.E.

Footwear

At St. Edmund's, we want all of our children to grow into healthy adults. Shoes should be strong and sturdy. They need to give adequate protection to the feet, toes and be able to grip surfaces. All children should wear plain black shoes or plain black trainers (no logos). We consider the following footwear to be dangerous and unsuitable for school and therefore we do not allow them:

Platforms

High heels

Sandals

Sliders

Flip-flops

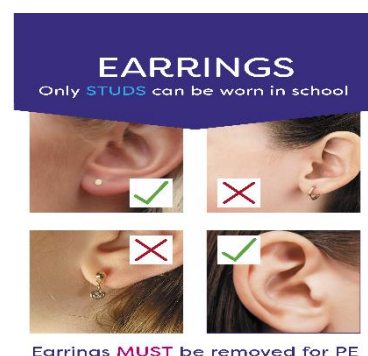
Boots

Heelies

Brightly coloured footwear or items with flashing heels must never be worn.

Jewellery

For health and safety reasons, children should not wear jewellery to our school as it involves a risk of injury to themselves and to other children. So parents/carers are asked not to send children to school wearing jewellery. The only exception to this rule is a small plain stud earring in ears which have already been pierced. These are to be discouraged as much as possible and if they have to be worn, they must be small in size and plain. (see pictures). Earrings should not be worn for P.E. or swimming and your child must be able to remove them.



Appearance

We do not encourage children to change their appearance for school. This goes against our school mission and ethos – we are all made in the image and likeness of God and therefore are accepting of our unique features. Make-up, false nails, nail varnish and other fashion accessories have no place in the day-to-day running of St. Edmund's and in line with other schools, are not allowed. Beads and other extreme hair accessories are also inappropriate on health and safety grounds and are therefore strongly discouraged. Tattoos and transfers of any type are simply not permitted.

The role of parents/carers

We require that all parents who choose to send their children to St. Edmund's fully support this school uniform policy. It is the duty of parents to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. Parents and carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, 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. If there are serious medical reasons, for example, why a parent wants a child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

Parents/carers are expected to label their child's clothing so that it can be easily identified.

The role of governors

The governors have reviewed, agreed and approved this policy. They fully support the headteacher, senior leaders and teachers to implement this policy. Governors will consider all representations from parents regarding this policy and will liaise with the headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. The governors seek to ensure that the policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hard wearing, safe, practical and affordable. The headteacher has worked closely with suppliers to provide the best value for all our families.

The governing body will review the policy every three years and seek the views of parents and children. They will also consider with the headteacher any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensations.

Possessions

Parents/carers are responsible for the possessions of their children at all times. Pupils should only bring to school a water bottle, a school book bag and a packed lunch box (if not taking school meals). No other items should be brought into school. Children are not allowed to use a mobile phone in school. They should not bring a phone into school unless:

- It has been agreed with the school beforehand because of special circumstances.
- If your child is in Year 5 or 6 and are walking to and from school independently of an adult. They may need a mobile phone in these circumstances.

Year 5 and 6 children, if they have to bring a phone to school, must hand it in to their teacher when they arrive at school.

Non-uniform/'mufty' days

At St. Edmund's we often have non-uniform/mufty days, usually to raise money for either school fund or charities. We do our best to keep these days to a Friday. Although children are encouraged to dress down, it is still expected that they dress in a way that is suitable and safe for school. If a child arrives at school and a teacher deems their clothing to be unsuitable for school, a phone call will be made home for more suitable clothing to be brought.

Art/DT days

Over the last few years children have been encouraged to wear, 'clothes they don't mind getting messy' for Art/DT days. This is no longer a requirement. School uniforms are durable enough and any art materials we use in school can be washed out of clothing easily. If parents are concerned about their child's uniform on these days, they are encouraged to send in an old larger overall that can be worn over the school uniform.

Non-compliance

We view our school uniform as a way of celebrating the family of St. Edmund's, where everyone is part of the same team and we are proud ambassadors and representatives of the school community. When out on visits, our children are often congratulated on their smart presentation and we thank our parents for going to the lengths that they do to ensure their children look smart attending school. On the rare occasion when a child attends school without wearing the correct uniform, we expect a parent/carer to phone school to give a reasonable explanation so that we can provide appropriate support. There may need to be further action taken. When making any decisions, the child's age, vulnerability, how easily the breach can be remedied and the availability of parents/carers will be considered. As a Catholic school, we aim to resolve any uniform/appearance non-compliance as quickly as possible. As always, we ask parents/carers for their continued support and co-operation.

Related policies

Mission statement and mission into practice
Home school agreement
Behaviour policy

Stockist

Ziggy's Schoolwear

North City Shopping Centre
20 Lee Road
Manchester
M9 4DH

2nd hand uniform

Although we don't have the facilities to stock 2nd hand school uniform, it is worth having a confidential conversation with a member of our welfare team as we can always find a way to support our families. We make referrals to Wood Street Mission each July and they provide brand new school trousers/skirts/shirts and polo t-shirts for our families.