



## **St Mary's RC Primary School Haslingden**

## **School Uniform Policy 2024-25**

### **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
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

### **2. 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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Miss McNicoll ([head@st-marys-haslinden.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@st-marys-haslinden.lancs.sch.uk)) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

### **3. Limiting the cost of school uniform**



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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 (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 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
- making the wearing of items with the school logo on non-compulsory
- allowing the wearing of cheaper alternatives to school-branded items
- keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- providing clothing for inter-school competitions
- 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

## 4. Our School Uniform:

Reception to Year 5	Year 6
<p><b>Tartan skirt, pinafore dress (KS1 only) or grey trousers/ shorts</b></p> <p><b>White polo shirt</b></p> <p><b>Bottle green cardigan or sweatshirt</b></p> <p><b>Green gingham dress for summer (optional)</b></p>	<p><b>Tartan skirt or grey trousers</b></p> <p><b>White shirt and a school tie</b></p> <p><b>Bottle green cardigan or sweatshirt</b></p> <p><b>Green gingham dress for summer (optional)</b></p>

### Footwear



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All children are required to wear black, rubber soled school shoes.

All pupils also need black indoor slip-on pumps

## **PE Kit**

Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for PE. The PE kit is as follows:

- Plain white T-shirt
- Navy shorts
- Navy zipped hoody or sweatshirt or normal school jumper  
    Navy tracksuit bottoms or leggings
- Plain, suitable trainers or the children can wear their black pumps if the lesson is in the hall.

## **Forest School Clothing**

Children are asked to come into school on the day of their Forest School session wearing their Forest School clothing. Parents/carers will be informed of their children's Forest School days via newsletter, our website and/or via text reminders. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring that their child is dressed appropriately for Forest School. Forest School clothing is as follows:

- Waterproof coat (or waterproof jacket in warmer weather)
- Comfortable tracksuit bottoms or leggings (not shorts)
- Long-sleeved top
- Wellington boots or old trainers
- Appropriate hat for the weather /scarf and gloves (in colder weather)

## **5. Where to purchase school uniform**

- Abbey Street Shopping Centre Schoolwear, Accrington BB51EB
- Any local supermarket for non-branded items



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- PTA second hand uniform shop.

## 6. Name Labels

Please ensure that **any** items of clothing, which your child is likely to remove or put on during the school day, are clearly named. School cannot accept responsibility for lost clothing or items. Clothing and footwear are the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. If a child goes home in another child's clothing by accident, for example, their sweatshirt, parents/carers should send the clothing not belonging to them back into school to their child's class teacher. Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box. All lost property is retained for a term and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

## 7. School Bags

At the end of last year, we reminded you about the bags we expect and prefer for our children in school. We have found that children, particularly in KS2 come to school with big rucksack style bags containing very little. We really do struggle for space in our cloakrooms.

EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2

Children need a school bag for reading books, reading record, homework etc. This is the school book bag which can be purchased with your uniform order. It is spacious enough for sending things home and fits in children's trays neatly and really helps us to keep the classrooms safe and tidy. They also need a Sport/PE kit bag labelled with their name.

Years 3, 4, 5 and 6

Children in Key Stage 2 still require a bag for their reading books, planners, letters home and homework etc. As space within our cloakrooms is limited, we ask that the bags be small.

In all classes, all stationery is provided every day by school and therefore children are not required to bring in pencil cases or other stationery.

## 8. Jewellery

Only the following items of jewellery can be worn in school:

- A wristwatch – this should not be a SMART watch. Mobile devices are not allowed in school and should be taken to the office if brought in where they will be stored for the day.
- The children may wear a small pair of earring studs, but these will need to be covered or removed for certain activities like PE. These should be plain silver or gold metal studs.
- Jewellery of any other description is not permitted. This includes holiday bracelets which should be removed before children return to school.

### **Watches (including SMART watches) and Activity Trackers.**

In our school uniform policy children are allowed to wear a watch. Our preference is for an analogue watch as this helps the children when and as they are learning to tell the time.



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Our policy has always been and remains that SMART watches are not allowed in school. This includes any watch that has the ability to access the internet, take photographs, receive text messages etc (for example Fit Bit Blaze, Fit Bit Charge or Apple watches).

What we will allow is a very simple and inexpensive band style watch without an interactive face or screen that can also track activity and steps, an example of this style of watch is pictured below. However, if any watch begins to cause a distraction during lesson or learning times then this will be dealt with on an individual basis when and if it occurs.

## **9. Water Bottles**

Children should bring a water bottle into school each day. This should:

- Have a retractable non-spill top
- Be labelled with their name
- Be in a clear container
- Contain water only (no juice or cordial)

## **10. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed annually by Miss D Mcnicoll, headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

## **11. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

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

Policy review date : October 2024