



St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School

School Uniform Policy

March 2023

Mission Statement

'Nurturing Hearts and Minds'

God's love is at the heart of all that we do at St Gabriel's Catholic Primary School. Hearts and Minds are nurtured in a stimulating and safe environment. We believe that every child is unique and we nurture each child through a creative and rounded curriculum to reach their full potential. Talents are celebrated and differences are respected within a strong, supportive Catholic community.

At St Gabriel's, children learn to love, respect and care for each other and God's entire world. Our school is a place where children are filled with a love of life and learning.

St Gabriel's School Uniform Policy

At St Gabriel's the children are required to wear a school uniform. A high standard of personal appearance is expected of all pupils. It not only looks smart, but contributes positively to the ethos of our school. Application for a place at St. Gabriel's implies acceptance of this preferred option.

Introduction

1.1. The Department for Education (DfE) strongly encourages schools to have a school uniform. This policy sets out the school's approach on uniform and confirms the school's commitment to providing value for money to parents and ensuring that no pupil is discriminated against due to their gender, disability, religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background.

"Your beauty should not come from outward adornment, such as elaborate hairstyles and the wearing of gold jewellery or fine clothes. Rather, it should be that of your inner self, the unfading beauty of a gentle and quiet spirit, which is of great worth in God's sight." 1 Peter 3:3-4

1.2. The school uniform helps ensure that all pupils, without exception, feel welcome. It helps to protect children from social pressures to dress in a particular way; it nurtures cohesion, promoting good relations between different groups of pupils. Above all, the school uniform supports effective teaching and learning.

1.3. This policy follows the DfE statutory guidance 'Cost of school uniforms', published 19 November 2021.

2. Aims and objectives

Our policy is based on the notion that school uniform:

- 2.1 promotes a sense of pride in the school in line with our ethos;
- 2.2 engenders a sense of identity and belonging towards the school community;
- 2.3 supports positive behaviour and discipline;
- 2.4 is practical, affordable and smart;
- 2.5 makes students feel equal and encourages cohesion;
- 2.6 has been designed with health and safety in mind; and
- 2.7 supports sustainability

3. Roles and Responsibilities

3.1. The roles and responsibilities of the Local Governing Committee, Headteacher, teachers, parents and pupils in relation to school uniform are set out at Schedule 2 of this policy.

4. School Uniform Cost and Availability

4.1. In accordance with the School Admissions Code and the DfE statutory guidance 'Cost of school uniforms', the school ensures that the uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child at the school.

4.2. The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations and guidance on costs and value for money. Care is taken to ensure that school uniforms are affordable for current and prospective pupils.

4.3. The school minimises any changes to the school uniform, taking into account the views of parents and pupils when considering any proposed changes.

4.4. The school makes provision for second-hand uniforms (pre-loved) to be available (termly), which can particularly benefit parents on low incomes. Parents are encouraged to donate second-hand clothing of a satisfactory quality, and which is no longer required, so other parents can use it.

4.5 Second hand uniform is also available from Alsager Community Support Centre on the Fairview/Civic car park. Volunteers run a pre-owned school uniform scheme, which is open to everybody and covers all Alsager Schools. You can either visit the

centre or complete the order form below and send it by email to uniform@alsagercommunitysupport.org.uk

5. Equal Opportunities

5.1. St Gabriel's is committed to promoting equality and ensuring that this policy or the application of this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.

5.2. Reasonable adjustments will be made to the uniform policy where it places a disabled pupil under the Equality Act 2010 at a substantial disadvantage compared to pupils who are not disabled.

5.3. Reasonable steps will also be taken by the school to ensure that the cost of girls' and boys' uniforms is not disproportionate.

5.4. The school will ensure that its uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.

5.5. Some religions and beliefs may require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief and will endeavour to allow religious requirements to be met where possible, whilst weighing up the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community.

5.6. Any request by a parent or pupil for any particular religious item to be worn, or any request for a change to the uniform policy, shall be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Headteacher and Local Governing Committee.

6. Hair

6.1 Hair should be cut smartly, with no 'fashion designs' of lines, patterns, or extreme designs. No haircut should be cut below a 'grade 2'.

6.2 Hair should always be tied up in a ponytail if it is long enough (shoulder-length).

6.3 Hair bands should be functional, not decorative.

7. Jewellery

7.1 Jewellery should not be worn in school for health and safety reasons. Under no circumstances should jewellery be worn during PE lessons. However, if earrings are worn this is restricted to studs; and children will be asked to remove these during PE lessons for their own safety.

7.2 Covering with plasters is not permissible.

7.3 Adults must not attempt to assist children with the removal or replacement of studs.

7.4 It is always our recommendation to have ears pierced at the beginning of the summer break enabling safe removal during term-time.

8. Makeup

8.1 Pupils are not allowed to wear makeup, including nail varnish, gel nails and nail extensions.

8.2 Pupils wearing make-up are required to remove it or, if appropriate, parents will be asked to collect their child to remove the makeup, before being allowed to return to their lesson.

8.3 The Headteacher may allow makeup in limited circumstances, at their sole discretion, for example a pupil may be permitted to cover heavy scarring/skin damage.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

The items for children to wear from the school uniform are listed below:

ALL pupils uniform

- Grey skirt, pinafore dress, trousers or shorts
- School Sweatshirt or cardigan
- Pale blue shirt/blouse
- School tie
- Summer Term: dress - in pale blue check
- Black shoes (NB boots are not permitted)
- Grey or navy tights in winter/ grey socks

PE Kit

- sky blue polo shirt (school logo optional), navy shorts (logo optional) and plimsolls/trainers. This should be kept in a draw string bag clearly marked with your child's name.

- Winter PE Kit can include dark coloured (Navy/black) jogging top and bottoms

In Year 6, pupils are allowed to wear their 'Leavers Hoodies' in the summer term, reverting to their jumpers on special occasions when required.

Children have the option to wear what is most often referred to as a 'summer uniform' from after the Easter break until before the October half term.

Where to buy

If parents choose to purchase uniform with the school logo, it can be purchased directly from Smart Choice Uniform, 63 Crewe Road, Alsager. Telephone – 01270 747170. Smart Choice is run by Mr. Mittal who has been the supplier of our uniform for many years.

The following items may be purchased from Smart Choice Uniform. (See images below)

- School tie
- Sweatshirt
- School Fleece
- School Cardigan
- P.E. Navy shorts
- School PE shirt

Second hand uniform is also available from Alsager Community Support Centre on the Fairview/Civic car park. Volunteers run a pre-owned school uniform scheme, which is open to everybody and covers all Alsager Schools. You can either visit the centre or complete the order form below and send it by email to uniform@alsagercommunitysupport.org.uk

Plain items without the school logo, (such as trousers, jumpers, skirts, t-shirts, PE kit etc) may be purchased from any major store or supermarket providing that they closely match the colour requirements listed above (photographed examples of which are set out below).

General

It is important that all school uniform is clearly labelled with your child's name, so that lost items can be identified.

We are extremely proud of our uniform and the standards we uphold.

Governors gave much consideration to making sure that the St Gabriel's school uniform meets the needs of any individual pupil to accommodate their religion or belief, ethnicity, or disability and that it meets with the guidance published by the Department for Education.





Roles and Responsibilities

1.1. The roles and responsibilities of the Local Governing Committee, Headteacher, teachers, parents and pupils in relation to school uniform are set out below.

1.2. The Local Governing Committee is responsible for:

1.2.1. establishing, in consultation with the Headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the ethos of the school and its vision and values

1.2.2. ensuring that equal opportunities are considered and that no person or group is discriminated against

1.2.3. listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and school community

1.2.4. ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable and meets the DfE statutory guidance on 'cost of school uniform'.

1.3. The Headteacher of the school is responsible for:

1.3.1. implementing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis

1.3.2. ensuring that staff at the school understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy

1.3.3. listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and where appropriate, making any reasonable recommendations to the Local Governing Committee regarding any proposed changes

1.3.4. carefully considering any reasonable request from a parent to vary the policy,

in particular to meet the needs of any individual pupil, for example to accommodate their disability, religion or belief, or other special considerations

1.3.5. processing and approving all eligible applications for assistance with the cost of school uniforms.

1.4. Teachers at the school are responsible for:

1.4.1. ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times (unless the Headteacher has granted an exemption on a case by case basis)

1.4.2. considering disciplinary or behavioural sanctions in respect of any pupil who is in breach of this policy without reasonable explanation

1.4.3. ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, including avoiding divisiveness, promoting school identity and a sense of belonging, pride and school community.

1.5. Parents of pupils at the school are responsible for:

1.5.1. providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy

1.5.2. approaching the Headteacher if they require any changes to this uniform policy for a period of time, setting out their reasons

1.5.3. ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable, the correct size and clearly labelled.

1.6. Pupils who attend the school are responsible for:

1.6.1. wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the Headteacher has granted an exemption

1.6.2. looking after their uniform

1.6.3. understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school

