

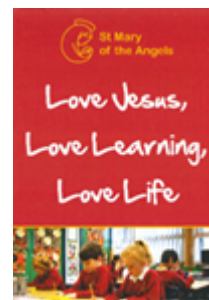
St Mary of the Angels Catholic Primary School

Uniform Policy

Person responsible: Mrs. H. Thorpe

Building on previous policy from: May 2023

To be next reviewed: May 2024



At St Mary's we follow the national requirements and guidance on uniform. The Department for Education states that they "*strongly encourage schools to have a uniform as it can play a key role in:*

- *promoting the ethos of a school*
- *providing a sense of belonging and identity*
- *setting an appropriate tone for education"*

We fully agree with this philosophy. We regularly review our policy to ensure that we are meeting all requirements, and indeed exceeding them.

Cost and quality.

We believe that cost and quality are key to our uniform provision. The only piece of uniform which is branded with the school logo is our sweatshirt/cardigan. All other items can be purchased from any supplier, i.e. PE kit, polo shirt, skirts, trousers, black shoes etc.

We work with a local Uniform Shop at nearby Rivacre shops, the owners are known to the school. Uniform is high quality, durable and very affordable, compared to our previous various suppliers; delivers to parents (for example, this year, they delivered free of charge locally); and they are open all year round, and are very accessible to parents. We have found their services to be excellent and cost effective; and we have not had a single complaint about this shop since we started using it. Online ordering and personal accounts are available. Other local schools are similarly happy with the cost and quality. Of course, our logo is available on our website and some parents choose other suppliers, which is fine with us too.

Access/ease of supply.

The Uniform Shop always carries a stock of uniform and, if parents require additional items such as coats with luminous strips or extra embroidering, they are very accommodating. Almost all items can be collected immediately. The shop is within walking distance from the school, with parking bays directly outside for convenience, if needed.

Continuity

Our last significant uniform change was in 2003 when the school changed names. We intend to continue with the same uniform into the future, as we have many siblings, who can benefit from uniform being 'handed down'. A matching, embroidered 'book bag' is provided free of charge from school, to every child, to avoid the need for expensive back packs etc. These are quality materials, with a luminous strip, and should last for the child's entire primary school journey.

Support for those in need

Anyone eligible for free school meals & pupil premium receives free uniform. We also have a permanent stock of pre-loved uniform in school, free of charge, if anyone needs it for whatever reason. The senior management team looks at additional requests for support with school uniform with discretion, as we understand that costs can be prohibitive; and we will help in any way we can.

Clarity for parents

We provide a list of our uniform for clarity, in various sources, such as;

- On our website, in the 'uniform' tab.
- At the new Reception parents evening each may.
- Via email and in packs for new starters.

Below, is a list of uniform and where it can be accessed. This policy will be reviewed annually by governors.

UNIFORM LIST – ST MARY OF THE ANGELS 2023-24

The Uniform Shop - 30 Overpool Rd, Ellesmere Port CH66 1JN

Embroidered maroon school sweatshirt/cardigan - Available from the Uniform Shop

Other items which can be accessed from the same shop, or from any supplier

- White polo shirt
- Dark grey dress/pinafore
- Dark grey trousers
- Black school shoes
- Trainers on PE days

Summer term dresses

- Yellow gingham dress

PE Kit

- Plain white T-Shirt
- Black shorts
- Plain black jogging trousers for outdoor play

Swimming kits

- You will be informed if your child has a course of compulsory NC swimming lessons.
- They will need a costume and a named towel.
- The Sports Village swimming team require boys to wear 'Speedo' type trunks and not football shorts, for hygiene reasons. Girls should wear an all-in-one costume.

Earrings and jewellery are not to be worn in PE or any other sport, in line with Cheshire West and Chester Schools Health and Safety Advice.