



Rationale

Uniform is a very important part of our school and we are extremely proud of the way in which our students present themselves, both in school and more widely. It promotes a sense of identity, avoids divisiveness, and helps create and foster in every student a sense of personal pride and pride in the school. Uniform helps to create a purposeful, academic environment in which our students are able to achieve highly, both academically and holistically. Uniform provides practical clothing for the very many different tasks to be done during a busy day. It also prepares students for the world of work, where the vast majority of professional workplaces expect such attire. Students take great pride in their appearance and the uniform standards at St Mary's are excellent. We appreciate the support of parents in ensuring that students always follow our uniform expectations and that our excellent standards in uniform are maintained.

DfE Uniform Guidance 2021

This policy is written in line with DfE statutory guidance for schools on the cost effectiveness of uniform (November 2021). Our governors have consulted in line with this guidance in order to ensure that our uniform is fully compliant with this guidance.

We will continue to ensure the cost effectiveness of our uniform for parents by regularly reviewing our uniform costs, uniform provider and uniform policy. Parents are regularly reminded that, should they require any support with uniform costs, they should contact their child's Head of Year to discuss how the school can offer support.

Uniform list

Below is a uniform list, which details the items of our school uniform and where they can be purchased. All of the items detailed below are compulsory uniform items, apart from those noted below as optional items. Students wear the same uniform throughout the school year and there are no seasonal changes. However, students may wish to wear the optional school jumper during winter months.

Main Uniform – Must be purchased through Michael Sehgal & Sons Ltd

- Navy blazer with embroidered St Mary's badge.
- St Mary's clip on tie.
- Navy V-neck jumper with St Mary's logo (the jumper is an optional item)
- **Custom made pleated school skirt for Year 7 to Year 10.** Please ensure that the skirt is the correct waist and length measurement. Once bought, it should not be altered in any way, skirts should not be rolled up and should be worn at an appropriate length.

Main Uniform – May be purchased from any store

- Standard white shirt, large enough at the neck to allow the top button to be comfortably fastened at all times. No fitted shirts to be worn.
- Standard fit, charcoal grey school trousers. Slim fit or wide leg trousers are not to be worn.
- Plain black standard school shoes, which are able to be polished. Trainers, trainer style shoes, canvas shoes, suede shoes or shoes with any logos, colours, buckles or accessories are not allowed. No knee boots or ankle boots are to be worn.
- Plain white or black ankle socks or plain black or natural coloured tights. No leggings, knee socks or patterned socks are to be worn.
- A student who for religious reasons wears a head covering must ensure it is plain black or navy blue.

P.E. Uniform– Must be purchased through Michael Sehgal & Sons Ltd

The following items are the PE uniform for students in Year 8 to 11 and Year 13.

- Navy polo shirt with embroidered St Mary's badge.
- Navy shorts for the girls.
- White shorts for the boys.
- Navy tracksuit bottoms (the tracksuit bottoms are an optional item)
- Navy PE sweatshirt and/or waterproof jacket (these are optional items)

There is a new PE uniform for Year 7 and Year 12 from September 2022. This is a unisex uniform, which we aim to introduce to all year groups over the coming years as we phase out the previous design.

- Navy polo shirt with sky blue stripe and St Mary's badge
- Navy shorts **or** Navy tracksuit bottoms
- Navy mid-layer with St Mary's badge (this is an optional item)

P.E. Uniform – May be purchased from any store

- Sturdy training shoes (not boots, plimsolls or fashion/leisure shoes).
- White sports socks.

**Reasonable adjustments to the uniform may be made in exceptional cases and could only be made following discussions with a student's Head of Year/ member of SLT.*

Second Hand Uniform

We recognise the importance of offering parents and carers the option of accessing second-hand uniform. Should parents want to purchase second-hand uniform or sell uniform items, which their child has outgrown, has not worn or no longer wears, there is further information on our school website about how to do this.

Further uniform guidance

Hairstyles, jewellery and make-up

- Hair must be a natural colour only and hairstyles are not to follow extremes of fashion such as shaved heads, tramlines, patterns or dyed hair. Boys' hair should be cut no shorter than grade 2 and there should be no extreme difference in hair length.
- Only simple, plain black or navy headbands or hairclips are allowed.
- No make-up or nail varnish is to be worn or brought into school. False nails are not allowed.
- The only jewellery allowed to be worn is a watch and a pair of plain gold or silver studs. However, all jewellery must be removed for PE lessons for health and safety reasons. Rings and bracelets are not allowed to be worn.
- Badges are not allowed to be worn on the school uniform.
- Wristbands are not allowed to be worn.

Outdoor coats

- Sensible outdoor coats may be worn on the journey to school. However, outdoor coats must be removed when students enter the school building. They are not allowed to be worn inside of the school building.

Technology

- Mobile phones must be switched off and remain out of sight during the school day at all times.
- No headphones or airpods are allowed to be worn in school.
- Smart watches may only be worn for the purpose of telling the time. They should not be used to access internet or communicate in any way. They are not allowed to be used to record, film or take photos. They are not allowed to be worn during assessments or in exam conditions.

If students choose to bring any of the above items in to school, St Mary's school take no responsibility for any possible loss, theft or damage.

Equipment

For all of our students to enjoy success at school and reach their full potential, they need to be fully equipped for lessons and avoid any distractions. In order to achieve this, the following guidelines must be adhered to.

- All students must have a **plain dark coloured (Black or Navy) practical school bag large enough for school files (A4)**. The bag should not be a fashion item (i.e. no handbags) and should be able to be carried on the back or over the shoulder with a long strap.
- All students must have 2 pens, a pencil, rubber, ruler, protractor and a calculator.
- All students must carry their planner and take this to each lesson.

Uniform and behaviour

Should any student persistently fail to follow the uniform expectations as detailed in this policy by wearing incorrect items or uniform or by wearing the uniform incorrectly without reasonable justification, they would receive sanctions in line with St Mary's behaviour policy. Should uniform issues arise, our aim is to work with parents and carers to resolve the issues as soon as possible.

Policy review date	By whom	Approved (<i>insert date</i>)
February 2022	Local Governing Committee	01.02.22