St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School

Uniform Policy

THE SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

Learning and growing together in God's love

September 2026

Review date: September 2027

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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 all 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: age, sex, sexual orientation, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, 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
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair, although we reserve the right to ask that long hair be tied back

- Allow all pupils to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school, and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons, or if they are experiencing discomfort
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and/or other religious garments
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform, depending on their specific needs
- Allow for reasonable adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents/carers to get in touch with Mrs Claire Furness, Senior Assistant Head, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers' ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of

3 or fewer: **All pupils = jumper or cardigan; EYFS & KS1 (Reception, Years 1 -2) = Bookbag; KS2 (Years 3-6) = Tie**

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible.
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats, bags and shoes/trainers that pupils could also wear on non-school days. See more information in section 4.1
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Making sure that opportunities to acquire second-hand items in a timely manner are accessible to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school's complaints policy
- Avoiding single-supplier contracts, to make sure generic items can be purchased from a range of retailers

- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Uniform is worn at St Francis of Assisi to develop a sense of pride in being a member of the school community. It is expected that all children will wear the school uniform.
The uniform for St. Francis of Assisi is as follows:

R-Y2

- black/dark grey skirt/pinafore/trousers (or shorts/purple gingham dress in summer)
- white shirt/ polo shirt/blouse
- **school sweatshirt or cardigan**
- White, grey or black socks or tights

Y3-Y6

- black/dark grey skirt/pinafore/trousers (or shorts/purple gingham dress in summer)
- white shirt and **school tie** (winter)
- white shirt/ blouse/polo shirt (summer)
- **school sweatshirt or cardigan**
- White, grey or black socks or tights

Required branded items: All pupils = jumper or cardigan; EYFS & KS1 (Reception, Years 1 -2) = Bookbag; KS2 (Years 3-6) = Tie

Optional branded items: *Fleece, hoody, white polo shirt, rucksack.*

School Shoes: black, low heeled, with no open toes. No trainers, apart from on PE days or days when wearing PE kit is required

Length of skirts and dresses: must be of a modest and sensible length that maintains dignity for all.

Summer Uniform: may be worn in September if the weather is still warm.

PE: all children from Y1 upwards: a plain white t-shirt and plain black shorts of a sensible length (not PE knickers): a pair of plain black jogging/track suit trousers for colder weather, a pair of trainers for PE on the field or playground. *Optional purple School Hoodies with our logo can be worn for PE and can be ordered at our supplier.*

Swimming: one-piece swimming costumes for girls (no bikinis); swimming trunks for boys (no 'Bermuda' shorts), Swimming cap for all pupils. Towel.

Jewellery: must not be worn, apart from watches (not Smart watches) and plain stud earrings if necessary.

Make-up and nail varnish: must not be worn in school.

Hair: long hair needs to be tied back for health and safety reasons and hair must not be dyed,

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4.2 Where to purchase or acquire it

Uniform items with a school logo should be purchased from the Stevensons Schoolwear Centre, Ber St, Norwich. https://www.stevensons.co.uk/

All other items are readily available in a range of supermarkets and department stores at affordable prices. Please contact Mrs Hope, Mrs Furness or Mr Brackenbury in confidence if you have any concerns regarding the cost of school uniform.

The school has a wide selection of good quality second-hand uniform in a variety of sizes which can be purchased for a small donation. Parents and carers can contact the Office to make an appointment to view the available second-hand uniform.

New parents are advised that second-hand uniform on offer at the initial 'Welcome' meeting in the Summer Term before their child starts school, or on acceptance of a school place for later joiners. Information is also made available in the 'Welcome' Parents Pack.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact the Headteacher, Senior Assistant Head, Assistant Head or SENDCo if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents/carers are also expected to contact the Headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents/carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner in accordance with the school's complaints policy.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents/carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Uniform reminders to parents/carers will be sent home as necessary (see Appendix A).

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with, in the first instance the class teacher communicating with parents or carers; subsequently, a member of the Senior Leadership Team meeting with parents or carers.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation and the pupil will not miss classroom teaching because of a sanction. This is in line with the statutory guidance.

5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents/carers, and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single-supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the local governing board

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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

Annex A

Uniform Reminder

Please could you ensure that ……comes to school with the correct school uniform. Thank you. See below for details.

School tie ☐	**Skirt/dress** ☐	**Jumper/cardigan** ☐	**Shirt/blouse** ☐
PE kit ☐	**Swimming kit** ☐	**Socks/tights** ☐	**School shoes** ☐
Hair ☐	**Jewellery** ☐	**Make-up/varnish** ☐	**Label items** ☐

Signed: **Date:**

Our Uniform Policy can be found on the school website under ‘School Info/Policies’ and on request from the Office.