



Guardian Angels Catholic Primary School

Uniform Policy

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Chair of Governors (Signature)	Mary Higgins
Head Teacher (Signature)	Helen Milligan
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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 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, 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 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 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 related to their sex, gender or gender reassignment
- 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 your child's class teacher or Head of School, 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 uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need 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/carers' 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
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost and/or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents/carers to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

Guardian Angels is a fully uniformed school. The staff and governors believe that it instils a sense of pride, discipline and good order in the pupils. It adds to the sense of belonging and community and gives equality to all children. The children look smart and are good ambassadors for the school in their uniform.

- The following must be adhered to by pupils.
- Parents are strongly advised to ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled with their child's name.
- We ask that parents send their children into school wearing the following items of uniform as detailed below, these can be purchased from Clive Mark, 2282 Coventry Road, Sheldon, B26 3JR.

Winter Uniform (September to Easter) –Boys

- Plain grey or black trousers
- White shirt
- Black or grey socks (no colours or patterns. No white socks)
- Black and yellow school Tie
- Black jumper
- Smart, plain black 'Clarks style' shoes (no canvas, boots or heels)

Winter Uniform (September to Easter)-Girls

- Plain grey pinafores, black/grey skirt or trousers

- White blouse
- Black, white or grey socks or tights (plain)
- Black and Yellow School Tie
- Black jumper or cardigan
- Smart, plain black 'Clarks' style shoes (no canvas, boots or heels)

Summer Uniform (After Easter-October half term)

As winter uniform apart from:

- Yellow collared polo shirts may be worn instead of a shirt and tie. This applies to boys and girls. Please note that the polo shirt should be yellow, not white.
- Girls may wear a yellow gingham/stripe summer dress instead of the shirt, tie and skirt.
- Boys may wear plain grey school shorts.

P.E Kit

- Plain black P.E Bag
- Black hoodie
- Plain black shorts (or plain, black track suit bottoms for cold weather)
- Yellow T-shirt
- Plimsoles for indoor work, trainers for outdoor work for Years 4, 5 & 6
- Plimsoles for Years Reception, 1, 2 & 3

Swimming Kit

Swimming is a part of the National Curriculum and all children must attend lessons when their year group participate. Children must bring a towel and appropriate swimwear. Swimming bath rules state that 'Bermuda' or long shorts are not permitted for boys. Girls should wear a plain one piece swimsuit, bikinis are not permitted.

Note: The swimming baths does not allow earrings to be worn in the pool, therefore on these days please send your child in without earrings.

Jewellery

A simple, plain watch is permitted. Simple gold or silver stud earrings-No hoops. No other jewellery is allowed. This is due to safety reasons.

Footwear and Trainers

No trainers are not permitted apart from during PE lessons or otherwise instructed.

No high heels are permitted. **Shoes should be sensible, comfortable and leather style.** No canvas shoes are permitted, including VANS. Boots of any description or high heels are not permitted.

Hairstyles

Extreme haircuts are not permitted. No tramlines are permitted. Girls hair is to be tied back using plain black Alice hair bands or black elastic hair ties with no added accessories.

4.2 Where to purchase it

Branded items can be purchased from Clive Marks, however there is no expectation for any items to be branded.

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 their class teacher 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 Head of School 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.

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.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the relevant phase leader, assistant head teachers or Head of School.

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.

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 2 years by Headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by LGB.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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