

Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy



Uniform Policy

Version 1 – July 2022

Christ the King CVA's uniform policy is based on the belief that a uniform:

- *helps children and young people get ready to learn by signalling the start of the school day*
 - *engenders a feeling of community and belonging*
 - *promotes equality, diversity and inclusion amongst pupils*
- *removes peer pressure to wear particular clothes and shoes that not all can afford or want*
 - *should be practical and comfortable*
 - *should be good value for money*

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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 families
- 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 sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- 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 for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school (no dye or shaved patterns) yet makes them feel most comfortable
- 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
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

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 on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have 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' 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, for example, by only asking that book bags carry the school logo.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items e.g. school sweatshirts, school shirts.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as bags and trainers.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items e.g. school nearly new / used uniform – regular sales.
- Beginning to stock items of uniform that may be trickier to buy e.g. yellow school shirts.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

4. Expectations for school uniform

Our school's uniform

Our school winter uniform is:

- A yellow button down, collared shirt.
- A navy blue and gold striped tie (elasticated or non-elasticated)
- A navy blue jumper (V-neck or round neck) or navy blue cardigan
- A navy blue skirt / pinafore or grey trousers.
- Black flat closed toe shoes (not boots)
- Grey or black socks, or navy tights.
- Hair bobbles and bands should remain within these colours of yellow or navy blue.

Our school summer uniform is:

- Yellow and white checked summer dress with a navy blue cardigan and white socks
- OR
- Yellow polo shirt
 - Navy blue jumper or cardigan
 - Grey school shorts and black or grey socks
 - Footwear and accessories as detailed above.

Indoor PE Kit:

- Yellow polo shirt
- Navy blue or black PE Shorts
- Pumps

Outdoor PE Kit

- Yellow polo shirt
- Navy blue or black jogging bottoms
- Trainers
- A navy blue jumper or cardigan

Children will be required to attend school in their PE kit on their allocated PE day.

Additional Information:

Coats can be any colour or style, although preferably navy blue or black, and they must provide adequate protection from the elements, even during summer.

School bags can be any appropriate bag, however we do recommend our school branded book bags as they are cost effective and are the correct size for our reading folders and homework books. School book bags are available to purchase from the school office. We would kindly ask that children do not bring big bags into school, due to limited storage and most equipment is provided by school, reducing the need for children to bring big bags full of resources.

Jewellery should be kept to a minimum; a watch (not a 'Smart' watch) and a single pair of small stud earrings are allowed. However, these should be removed for PE/swimming – or we would recommend they are not worn on PE days. We would expect children to be able to remove their own earrings, or alternatively for them not to be worn at all on PE days. In the cases where earrings cannot be removed i.e. newly pierced ears, pupils must be able to tape up their earrings using their own medical tape. If pupils would struggle to do this, they should have their ears pierced at the start of the summer holidays so that they are fully healed for the new academic year.

Swimming kit is a one-piece swimming costume, trunks or swim shorts (not below the knee), preferably a dark colour. Goggles and a swimming hat are recommended, but not required. Long hair will need to be tied up and earrings removed.

Our uniform can be purchased from high street stores/supermarkets with the exception of the yellow winter shirts, bookbag and any items with the school logo.

These can be purchased from the school office or:

- Yellow button down shirts (winter uniform) – Kathleen's of Ripley, 30 Nottingham Road, Ripley, DE5 3DJ. Tel: 07968 843223 or www.trutex.com
- School book bags and uniform with the school badge – Logo Leisure – www.logoleisurewear.com

We regularly hold second hand uniform sales. These sales are always shared with our school community via an app update.

5. Expectations for our school community

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)

Families are also expected to contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics or other needs e.g. SEND.

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 and the correct size for the child

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner. The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome in the case of a dispute about the cost of school uniform, in line with relevant Trust policies.

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 does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the headteacher or a member of the school's Senior Leadership Team.

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. Please refer to the St Ralph Sherwin Education Support fund for any support. Families may be able to request assistance with the cost of uniform under the following circumstances:

- Their household income is less than £25,000 per year
- Their parents are currently claiming other means-tested benefits, including Income Support, Working Tax Credit/Child Tax Credit/Income-Based Employment and Support Allowance/Universal Credit...provided the student is not entitled to Free School Meals
- At the sole discretion of the Headteacher - any student who does not fall under the categories above but considers themselves to be in a state of financial hardship
- Further details regarding the Fund, and how to apply, are detailed in the Education Support Fund policy which can be accessed here on our school website:

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 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.

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy
- SRSCMAT Trust Hardship Fund

This policy will be reviewed in 2 years time, in June 2024.