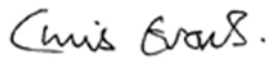




St Alban's RC High School

Uniform Policy

ORIGIN:	Governing Body Policy No: v00001.00
COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE:	Recruitment & Resources
LEAD MEMBER:	Business Manager
DATE APPROVED:	02/07/2025
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS NAME:	Chris Evans
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS SIGNATURE:	
REVIEW DATE:	02/07/2026

St Alban's RC High School is a voluntary aided school and the governing body is the employer of the staff who work there. The contract of employment is between the school's governing body and the employee. The governing body has all the employment responsibilities that this entails including the appointment and dismissal of staff.

Introduction

At St Alban's we believe that appropriate school uniform is conducive to creating a good working environment and promotes a sense of belonging to our school community. When dressed appropriately our pupils make a very positive impression upon the wider community who frequently comment upon their good behaviour and standard of uniform.

St Alban's has a school uniform policy and a clear dress code of how this uniform should be worn. Uniform applies to all pupils in Years 7 through to 11 at all times without exception.

Every pupil attending the school has chosen to join St Alban's and has done so in the knowledge that we have a uniform and dress code; therefore, they should be proud to represent our school as best they can, wearing the uniform with pride. It is an important part of the identity of the school.

We believe that our uniform enables to set a smart, business-like ethos amongst our pupils. In addition, the uniform helps pupils to be focused on learning. Importantly, it also gives due consideration to the health and safety of our pupils.

Our uniform dress code is reviewed regularly in consultation with pupils, parents, staff, School Council Members and Governors. It is designed to be smart, practical and cost effective. The overriding principle to this code is that "Uniform should be worn smartly and neatly at all times". Our expectations are also regularly communicated to pupils and parents through the School Gateway.

Aims & Objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- Supports positive behaviour and discipline, encouraging identity with, and support for the school ethos.
- Promoting a strong, cohesive, school identity that supports high standards and a sense of identity among pupils. If some children look very different to their peers, this can inhibit integration, equality and cohesion.
- Ensuring pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome and protecting children from social pressures to dress in a particular way.
- Is practical and smart
- Nurturing cohesion and promoting good relations between different groups of pupils.
- Appropriate hair styles that are not extreme form part of school uniform expectations, as well as jewellery being worn.
- Is designed with health and safety in mind
- School uniform includes clothing required for Physical Education

Policy Statement

Uniform should be practical and hard wearing and provide children with proper protection from the British weather throughout the year.

Parents should not be placed under pressure from their children to buy expensive designer brands of clothing because they say someone else in school is wearing them.

In essence, our aim is to support parents/carers in buying affordable, good quality clothing for school which pupils accept they have to wear because the rules are very clear. We want to make it easier

for parents/carers and help reduce any issues there may be over what is and isn't acceptable uniform.

St Alban's uniform can be purchased from two approved providers www.kidsschoolkits.co.uk and www.trutex.com. All uniform must be labelled/named; a significant amount of clothing is misplaced, and we cannot trace the owner because items are not labelled/named. Misplaced items which are labelled/named are returned to pupils.

Uniform can cause stress between parents and their children as it is not always clear on what is acceptable. The Uniform Guide has been produced to make uniform buying and wearing a lot clearer to both parents and pupils and the areas of uncertainty clarified.

The uniform guide is available to view on our website: [Uniform-Guide-2526.png \(2000x1414\)](#)

The school recognises that pupils do not always want to comply with school uniform requirements and that this can cause problems at home. However, we cannot alter our school uniform or dress code to suit individual tastes or opinions. We would always seek to work with any parents encountering difficulty ensuring their son/daughter complies with our school uniform or dress code when leaving home.

The school will contact parents of those pupils who attend school without the correct uniform, or those who refuse to accept the school's dress code, so that the issue can be successfully resolved.

In the case of your child needing modifications to the expected uniform due to medical reasons, please provide your child's Head of Year with the doctor's advice regarding the required modification.

Pupils who fail to adhere to the Uniform Dress Code will be sanctioned accordingly. If you require any clarification on any points of the Uniform and Dress Code, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We will endeavour to continue providing our well used swap shop, to support with replacing missing items of the expected uniform. We encourage all pupils to bring in uniform items they have out grown to swap for pre-loved alternatives from our stock that may be more suitable.

Footwear

We want all pupils to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for pupils to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow pupils to wear such shoes in our school.

Neither do we allow pupils to wear trainers to school; this is because we think that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. This includes canvas shoes, plimsolls or 'Van' style trainers.

We require all children to wear black shoes as stated in the uniform list. In winter time, winter black shoes or black boots may be worn – fashionable boots like Ugg boots are not allowed to be worn in school.

Skirts

A badged knee length black skirt is compulsory for girls. The school's uniform supplier offers three styles of approved skirts.

Trousers

Alternatively, girls may wear tailored straight leg black trousers. Sports leggings or items without a button or zip are not acceptable.

School Tie

The design of the tie changes for boys in Years 10 and 11. Girls in Year 10 and 11 may wear an open neck blouse with no tie. The Pupil Leadership team are required to wear a tie and 'prefect' badge to make them identifiable to their siblings.

Extreme Hair Styles

The school does not permit pupils to have 'extreme' haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (No shorter than a number 2), extreme patterns 'V' styles, Mohican cuts, or dyed, tipped or dipped hair are also forbidden. Pupils with long hair should also tie it back for safety reasons.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow pupils to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are:

- one plain stud earring in each ear lobe
- small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or Sikh Kara
- signet ring and watch

Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems eg. Diabetes or epilepsy.

Make-up & Nails

We do not encourage pupils to wear make-up, however, if make-up is worn it should be subtle and discreet. Pupils will be asked to remove make-up that is gaudy or excessive. Pupils are not permitted to have false nails and nail varnish must be subtle.

Equipment

The school provides all the necessary textbooks, exercise books etc., but each pupil should bring their own pencil case containing the following:

- Pencil Case, Pencil, Pens, Purple Pen
- Ruler, Protractor, Set Square, Calculator
- Eraser, Pencil Sharpener, Glue Stick
- Coloured pencils are a bonus and a great idea
- Recommended Calculator: Casio fx-83 series (GT Plus)

All items of equipment should be marked with the pupil's name. We offer a convenient and affordable solution via the School Gateway to replenish equipment. All items above can be collected from the main office at any time.

Electrical Equipment

If mobile phones or other electrical equipment (including ear pods) is brought into school, they must not be used between 8.30am and 3.10pm unless directed by a teacher during lessons for the purpose of learning. Use of mobile phones during school hours will result in the phone being confiscated. The phone will be taken to the main office and stored securely. The pupil will need to collect this at the end of the day. In some cases, where this persistently happens, the parent/carer will be contacted and the phone will only be reissued to them. The school will not accept responsibility for any loss or damage.

The role of parents

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. One of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sympathetically at such requests.

The role of governors

The governing body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents regarding the uniform policy and liaises with the Headteacher to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

Monitoring and review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy;
- considering, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform;
- requiring the Headteacher to report to the governors on the way the school uniform policy is implemented.

Uniform Swap Shop

This initiative is run by The Friends of St Alban's PTA and allows parents to reuse and recycle items of school uniform. The impact of fast fashion on our planet is becoming increasingly important, we believe that it is vital that people do as much as possible to recycle and reuse clothing. Parents can drop off any unwanted school uniform at the main school office and find more suitable garments. This scheme enables parents to clothe their children with an affordable and sustainable school uniform.

Pupil development grant

Torfaen Borough council offer grants to purchase uniform for families that are finding it hard to fund school uniform for their children. More information can be found using this web address:

<https://www.torfaen.gov.uk/en/EducationLearning/SchoolsColleges/FinancialSupport/School-clothinggrantsandvouchers/School-Clothing-Grants.aspx> or by ringing 01495 742291 or 742377