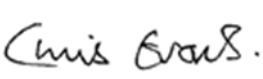




St Alban's RC High School

Uniform Policy

ORIGIN:	Governing Body
COMMITTEE RESPONSIBLE:	W,E & I
LEAD MEMBER:	Assistant Head teacher
DATE APPROVED:	26/10/2022
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS NAME:	Chris Evans
CHAIR OF GOVERNORS SIGNATURE:	
REVIEW DATE:	26/10/2023

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

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community and helps allow pupils to feel pride in their school. Pupils are not put under any pressure because of the type of clothes they wear and all are treated equally. It also helps prepare pupils for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for work.

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

In 2018, the school logo was updated. Pupils in Years 10-11 can continue to wear the embroidered uniform they already have with the old badge, we DO NOT expect parents/carers to replace this. However, if a pupils uniform needs replacing parents/carers will only be able to purchase items with the updated badge.

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.

The Headteacher meets regularly with the Parent Council to discuss uniform and provide greater clarity over what is, and is not, acceptable. Our expectations are also regularly communicated to pupils and parents through the School Gateway.

The Head teacher, or a person authorised by the Head teacher, may instruct a pupil to go home briefly to remedy a breach of the schools' rules on appearance or uniform.

Parents/carers will be contacted to arrange a meeting to discuss this matter. Pupils will receive an appropriate sanction – after school detention.

Footwear

The school wants 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

Badged skirts are compulsory for girls in year 7 and 8.

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.

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

Excessive make-up is not acceptable. False nails and/or nail varnish which is not neutral in colour is also not permitted.

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.

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. 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

The approved school uniform is illustrated below. All items of uniform including PE Kit should be marked clearly with the pupil's name.

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



What am I allowed to wear?

NEW UNIFORM GUIDE

Acceptable Uniform



Compulsory Girls

- Black blazer and school badge
- School tie*
- White shirt, short or long sleeved with collar
- A-line badged knee length black skirt or tailored straight leg black trousers
- Black tights or black socks.
- Short white socks can be worn with skirts
- Traditional black leather shoes
No canvas/VAN style trainers
- A plain school bag



Compulsory Boys

- Black Blazer and school badge
- School tie*
- White shirt, short or long sleeved with collar
- Black tailored trousers
- Black socks
- Traditional black leather shoes
No canvas/VAN style trainers
- A plain school bag

General Uniform Guidance

- Aside from single piercings in each ear, no other visible body piercings are permitted. This includes nose, tongue and eyebrows.
- 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.
- On non-uniform days pupils should wear appropriate clothing and suitable shoes (no vest or cropped tops/short skirts).
- Hair must not be dyed other than a natural colour and should not be cut in an extreme style.



Girls PE/Games Kit

- Polo shirt (white with school badge)
- Hooded sweatshirt (Navy with school badge)**
- Skirt /shorts (Navy)
- Sports socks (Navy/Sky)
- Trainers
- Plain black leggings - (No logos)



Boys PE Kit

- Polo shirt (white with school badge)
- Hooded sweatshirt (Navy with school badge)**
- Shorts (Navy)
- Sports socks (Navy/Sky)
- Trainers

Boys Games Kit

- Reversible rugby shirt (Navy/Sky with school badge)
- Rugby Shorts - (Navy)
- Rugby Socks - (Navy/Sky)
- Rugby/Football Boots

Top Tip!

It may be high school but still pop your name inside your uniform, on your bag and equipment.

*Please note that the design of the tie changes for pupils in Years 10 and 11

**Optional choice