ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Reviewed July 2025
Date of next review: July 2026

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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to contact Paula Murphy, 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 the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost 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 inter school competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- 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

4.1 Our school's uniform

Please see below a uniform list. Items in bold and blue are essential branded items that must be purchased from our uniform provider.

<table>
<tr><th colspan="2">Nursery</th></tr>
<tr><td>Winter

Plain navy jogging bottoms
Plain navy round neck sweatshirt
Plain white round neck t-shirt
Plain black velcro trainers (no laces)
Plain navy, charcoal grey or white socks
Logo navy waterproof coat
Logo woolly hat or plain navy hat
Logo book bag or small logo rucksack
Plain navy/black wellies</td><td>Summer

Plain navy shorts
Plain white round neck t-shirt
Plain black velcro trainers (no laces)
Plain navy, charcoal grey or white socks
Logo sun hat or plain navy blue sun hat</td></tr>
<tr><th colspan="2">Reception, KS1 and KS2</th></tr>
<tr><td>Winter

Charcoal grey trousers
Charcoal grey skirt/pinafore
Plain white shirt (long or short sleeved)
Striped school tie
Plain navy v-neck jumper <u>or</u>
Plain navy v-neck cardigan
Navy logo blazer
Logo navy waterproof coat OR plain navy blue school coat
Plain black school shoes
(no trainers or raised heels)
Charcoal grey socks
Charcoal grey tights <u>or</u> Plain grey/ white knee length socks
Logo woolly hat or plain navy woolly hat

<u>Reception</u>
Logo book bag <u>or</u> small logo rucksack
Plain navy/black wellies
<u>KS1</u>
Logo book bag <u>or</u> small logo rucksack
<u>KS2</u>
Large logo rucksack</td><td>Summer

Charcoal grey shorts
Plain white short sleeved shirt
Light blue checked summer dress
Plain black school shoes
(no trainers or sandals)
Logo sun hat or plain navy blue sun hat</td></tr>
</table>

PE Uniform (Reception, KS1 and KS2)	
Winter Plain navy jogging bottoms Plain navy sweatshirt Plain white round neck t-shirt White socks Plain black or white trainers *Velcro trainers in Reception	**Summer** Plain navy shorts or jogging bottoms Plain white round neck t-shirt Plain navy sweatshirt White socks Plain black or white trainers *Velcro trainers in Reception
Permitted Jewellery	
Watch Small plain gold or silver stud earrings	
Hair	
Plain navy or white hair ties, clips or beads only *All long hair should be worn tied up.	
Labelling	
All items of uniform should be labelled clearly with either sewn in or ironed on labels. Please do not rely on handwritten names.	

4.2 Where to purchase it

Items in the list above highlighted in bold are compulsory school items. These can be purchased using our uniform provider School Trends. They can be found here - www.schooltrends.co.uk

School ties and summer hats can be purchased through the school office.

All other items of uniform can be purchased from a store of your choice as long as it is in accordance with the uniform policy.

Twice a year the school will hold a second hand sale, where items of uniform can be purchased at a reduced cost. Details of these sales will be sent to parents during the school year.

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 Ailbhe Farrell through the school office 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 are also expected to contact Ailbhe Farrell, through the school office, 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 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 to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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 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.

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 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 on an annual basis by the Head of School. At every review, it will be approved by the Curriculum, Attainment and Standards committee.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

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