



St Cecilia's
CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

'Therefore encourage one another, and build each other up.'

Uniform Policy

Date:	May 2025
Review:	May 2027

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

Description:

At St Cecilia's CofE Primary School it is our policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform is included in this policy, and is available to view on the school website. We believe that uniform helps promote a sense of pride in the school and promotes our school's core values and high standards across the school. It helps engendering a sense of community and belonging towards the school and makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.

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 get in touch with the Head of School who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

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 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 interschool 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

Expectations for School Uniform

EYFS (Nursery and Reception)

Children attending the Nursery or Receptions classes must wear:

- Black jogging trousers/ shorts or leggings
- Summer blue and white Gingham dress
- Trainers that can be used for running around and climbing safely
- White Polo shirt (branded or unbranded)
- Branded Blue school jumper or Cardigan - available on our uniform website.



Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 (Years 1 – 6)

WINTER UNIFORM

- Black trousers (generic) / Shorts
- Black skirt (generic)
- Black pinafore dress (generic)
- Black socks/tights (generic)
- Plain white shirt (generic) (long or short sleeve)
- School tie* (branded & required)
- Black school shoes – see below for more information
- Jumper/cardigan with school logo* (branded & required)
- Hair accessories should be royal blue or black: long hair tied back. No oversized hair accessories (generic)



SUMMER UNIFORM

- Black knee-length shorts (generic)
- Black socks (generic)
- Summer dress (pale blue and white gingham dress) (generic)
- White socks with summer dress (generic)
- Plain white shirt (generic) (long or short sleeve)
- School tie (branded & required)
- Black school shoes - see below for more information
- Jumper/cardigan with school logo* (branded & required)
- Hair accessories should be royal or black: long hair tied back. No oversized hair accessories (generic)



Please note that Winter uniform is generally worn between October and April and the Summer uniform is worn during the other months.

We do not stipulate when children wear the different forms of uniform and the children can wear what they feel most comfortable in.

PE Kit

- Black shorts (generic)
- Royal blue round neck tee-shirt (generic)
- Black tracksuit trousers/leggings (generic)
- School jumper/cardigan* (branded & required)
- Trainers (generic)
- Black ankle socks (generic)



OTHER

- School book bag*
- PE bag (generic)

Specific clarification as to what can and cannot be worn

In order to ensure all pupils feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance, the school has outlined specific areas which require additional clarification. St Cecilia's Church of England Primary School will take no responsibility for loss or damage to any device or personal item brought into school. Regardless of what is worn, please ensure it is all labelled. You would not believe what items go missing!

Footwear

Footwear is often the most debated issue amongst schools and families across the country with regard to uniform expectations. For that reason, parents should pay close attention to what is outlined as appropriate footwear.

At St Cecilia's Church of England Primary School, we wish for pupils to look smart. Therefore, footwear must meet this criteria and be smart and appropriate for school.

- Footwear must be flat and closed toe (for health and safety reasons).
- Footwear must be solid black in colour.
- Footwear does not have to be leather, but it is strongly encouraged as it looks smart, is hard-wearing and easily cleaned. Trainers may be worn if they meet all other criteria in this list. There are examples of acceptable trainer styles below.

- Boots may only be worn if they are low-ankle boots, plain black and without any chains, embellishments or other accessories.
- Plimsoles are not suitable to be worn as main school shoes. It should be noted that a separate pair of trainers are also required for P.E. lessons.

Examples of acceptable trainer styles (although we strongly recommend leather shoes):

Examples of acceptable trainer styles (although we strongly recommend leather shoes):



Examples of trainer styles that are not acceptable:



Examples of ankle boots that are acceptable:



Examples of ankle boots that are not acceptable:



JEWELLERY

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are small plain gold or silver studs in pierced ears, small discreet watches and small objects of religious significance. We ask the children either to remove these objects during PE and games, or cover them with 'micro pore' in line with our PE/Health and Safety policies, to prevent them from causing injury. Pupils should not wear earrings if they are attending swimming lessons.

Please note that if children must wear jewellery for religious reasons, you will need to inform the class teacher.

Smart watches and similar worn devices

Whilst we want to support the fitness and healthy lifestyle of pupils, we also have a duty to protect pupils with regard to safeguarding and digital safety. Therefore, smart watches (or similar) that have any of the following features are not permitted to be worn or carried in school:

- Smart watches or similar with a camera function.
- Smart watches or similar with an e-SIM that allows the device to be connected to mobile internet.
- Smart watches or similar that have gaming functions enabled.

In addition, parents/carers should note the following:

- Pupils in Reception to Year 4 are not permitted a mobile phone on site.

- Pupils in Year 5 and 6 (who have signed permission) must hand their mobile phones in to the class teacher (turned off) at the beginning of the school day, so their device cannot connect to their smart watch despite it being on site. These must be collected at the end of the school day.

Hair

The school does encourage children to have sensible hair designs which do not distract other children from their learning. Hair accessories, such as hairbands, bows and clips, should be discreet and black or royal blue in colour. Large bows or coloured hair accessories are not permitted. Long hair (below shoulder length) should be tied up at all times.

Nails and makeup

We do not allow pupils to wear nail varnish or makeup in school.

Extreme weather amendments to uniform

In unusually hot weather, children will be advised to remove their ties and undo top buttons of their shirts. Children may also be allowed other variations of their uniform in extreme weather. What is allowed will be communicated to families at those specific times.

Where to purchase uniform

Our branded uniform items can be purchased through our chosen online supplier, with whom you can set up your own account for orders: Smart Impressions, <https://www.smartimpressions.group/contract/st-ceciliass>

All items of non-branded uniform required are readily available from supermarkets or department stores. School ties are available online via Smart Impression.

Expectations for our school community

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)

At school the expectation of uniform is:

- Pupils will have their shirts tucked at all times apart from when they are outside having break
- Ties should be tied properly

Pupils are also expected to contact the Head of School if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

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
- A SEND need

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 Senior Leadership Team if the situation doesn't improve.
- Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by a member of the Senior Leadership Team speaking with the parent/carer.
- 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.

Governors

The local governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Considers the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The local governing 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 retendering contracts at least every 5 years.