



St Peter's Catholic Academy

School Uniform Policy

OUR MISSION

“Together, One Family, One Community in Christ”

In the words of our children, our mission is...

To serve God together as one.

To show that we live the Gospel Values and Virtues together as one community.

To respect and love all in our community.

To love, work and play as part of God's family.

To put God first in our lives and become the people he wants us to be.

Introduction:

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in school-organised events outside normal school hours.

St Peter's Catholic Academy is committed to promoting equality and value for money, and to ensuring that no pupil is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

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

- promotes a sense of pride in our school
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- identifies the children with the school
- supports our commitment to inclusion
- is considered good value for money by most parents

Roles and responsibilities

The **Academy Committee** is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the Principal and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that equal opportunities are considered regarding the school's uniform and that no person is discriminated against.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.

The **Principal** is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Academy Committee.
- Providing pupils with an exemption letter as appropriate, e.g. for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting top.

Teachers are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.
- Helping the principal to communicate uniform expectations with parents when breaches of this policy occur.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the principal if their child requires a more relaxed uniform policy for a period of time, including why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the principal has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

Cost and availability

In accordance with the School Admissions Code, the school ensures that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.

The school does not amend uniform requirements regularly and takes the views of parents and pupils into account when considering changes to school uniforms.

Where wholesale changes are required, the school ensures that assistance is provided to parents struggling to meet the associated costs.

Religious Clothing

Some religions and beliefs require their members to conform to a specific dress code. The school does not discriminate against any religion or belief; however, the school weighs the needs and rights of individual pupils against the cohesion and health and safety concerns of the entire school community.

The school endeavours to allow religious requirements to be met where possible.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding religious clothing are dealt with on a case-by-case basis by the Principal and Academy Committee, and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

Equality

The school is required to ensure that this policy does not discriminate unlawfully.

Every step has been taken to ensure that the cost of girls' and boys' uniforms are not disproportionate.

The school endeavours to ensure that our uniform is as gender neutral and inclusive as possible.

Complaints and challenges

The school endeavours to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

To make a complaint, parents should refer to the Complaints Policy and follow the stipulations outlined.

When a complaint is received, the school works with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Local Academy Representatives are willing to consider reasonable requests for flexibility to allow a pupil to accommodate particular social and cultural circumstances.

School uniform supplier

Some items of uniform (jumpers, cardigans, ties and P.E tops) can be bought from the local school uniform shop 'National Schoolwear', In Hanley town centre. Our optional PE hoodie is available to purchase from 'SMART Uniform in Tunstall town centre. Other items are easily available, at very competitive prices, at local shops including supermarkets. A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is printed overleaf.

Our school uniform supplier is:

Name of supplier: National Schoolwear Shop

Address of supplier: 97 – 101 Stafford St, Hanley, ST1 1LS

Tel: phone number: 01782 272991

Non-compliance

Teachers are permitted to discipline pupils for breaching this policy, in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

The principal, or a person authorised by the principal, is permitted to ask the parents of a pupil to come into school to remedy breaches to the school's uniform.

The uniform

The boys' uniform is as follows:

- School Royal Blue Jumper with school logo
- White school shirt
- School tie
- Grey trousers (NO 3/4 length trousers)
- Grey or Black socks
- Black leather-style school shoes (NO trainers – e.g. shoes with a sports brand, even if they are all black)

The girls' uniform is as follows:

- School Royal Blue Jumper or cardigan with school logo
- White school shirt
- School tie
- Grey skirt/pinafore or grey trousers (NO culottes or shorts)
- Blue & White checked summer dress (with white leggings as optional) in Summer if desired
- Black shoes (No boots)

Trainers are not considered suitable footwear.

Sensible plain black shoes must be worn by both boys and girls.

Skirts must be knee-length.

PE kits are as follows:

- Navy P.E. polo shirt with logo
- Black shorts
- Black pumps
- PE bag

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

Jewellery, Watches, Hair Ornaments, Make-up and Nail Varnish and Hairstyles:

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are small objects of religious significance. Children are required to remove any items during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings and they must be removed before your child comes to school. Wrist watches may be worn but only for the purpose of telling the time. 'Smart' watches linked to mobile phones are not permitted. Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either blue or black in colour. Hair bands should not have large flowers attached. Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school.

Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have decorative patterns or 'tram lines' cut into their hair or have their hair coloured or dyed. For health and safety reasons and to ensure it does not distract from learning, we advise that long hair be tied back.

School bag

Pupils must use an appropriately sized waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold A4-sized work books comfortably without causing any damage.

School bags featuring inappropriate images, slogans or phrases are not permitted.

The school encourages pupils to bring non-valuable bags to school. The school will not be liable for lost or damaged school bags.

Labelling

All pupils' clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with their name by their parents.

Any lost clothing is taken to the lost property box in. All lost property is retained for one week and is disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

This policy was reviewed March 2025