

St Matthew's C.E (Aided) Primary School



Uniform Policy 2025 - 2026

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1. Uniform Policy Introduction

St Matthew's School requires all pupils to wear the designated school uniform when attending school and when participating in any school-organised activity, including events held outside normal school hours.

The school uniform fosters a strong sense of identity and community, while also promoting the values of Respect and Responsibility in accordance with our whole-school 3Rs and overall ethos.

Pupils are expected to wear their polo shirts neatly tucked into their trousers, skirts or shorts, and to maintain a high standard of personal appearance at all times.

Uniform items bearing the St Matthew's School logo may be purchased from Baker and Sons. Plain uniform items are also readily obtainable at competitive prices from a range of local retailers, including supermarkets.

A comprehensive list of required uniform items, including those necessary for physical education, is provided within this policy.

2. Aims and objectives

The aims of this policy are to:

- Provide clear guidance and clarity on what pupils can or cannot wear at school.
- Promote a sense of pride in our school and instill in pupils a positive attitude towards representing the school and its values.
- Foster a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- Ensure that our pupils can be clearly identified with our school.
- Uphold the school's commitment to inclusion.
- Discourage the wearing of 'fashion clothes' that could distract from learning.
- Ensure pupils' uniforms are practical, smart, affordable and are appropriate, with due regard to health and safety.
- Maintain high standards of personal presentation among all pupils.

3. Legal Duties

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment. In line with our statutory duties and commitment to inclusion, St Matthew's will ensure that our uniform policy is fair, accessible and respectful of all pupils.

To avoid discrimination and uphold these principles, our school will:

- Avoid listing or specifying 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 a manner that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
- Permit the wearing of headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols provided they are safe and appropriate for school.
- Consider requests for adaptations to the uniform policy on the grounds of equality. Parents or carers wishing to make such a request, should contact the school office, who will provide guidance and respond to individual circumstances.

4. 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
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items
- 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 leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items such as our school uniform swap shop
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents should any changes be necessary.
- Consult with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and give careful consideration to any concerns or complaints raised.

5. Our School Uniform

- School Logo or plain sweatshirt or cardigan in navy blue.
- Grey/black or navy trousers.
- Grey/ black or navy pinafore dress or skirt.
- White shirt or polo shirt.
- Blue gingham dresses.
- White/grey/black or navy socks or tights.
- Black or dark shoes. *Boots are not school uniform and if your child chooses to wear them to walk to school then they should be changed once inside to normal school shoes.*

6. PE Uniform

These items of clothing are required for every PE lesson:

Indoor Lessons

- Plain white round neck t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts

Outdoor Lessons in Summer

- Plain white round neck t-shirt
- Black or navy shorts
- Suitable outdoor trainers or pumps

Outdoor Lessons in Winter

- Plain white round neck t-shirt
- Plain black or navy tracksuit bottoms (No logos)

- Plain black or navy jumper (No logos)
- Suitable outdoor trainers or pumps

If a child's kit is forgotten regularly, you will be notified by letter or telephone. Please ensure all items of clothing are clearly labelled with your child's name to ensure they can be returned to you if misplaced.

Children with long hair must have it tied back for PE lessons to prevent accidents.

Children must remove any jewellery (watches) before participation and any stud earrings should be taped over or removed. Staff are not permitted to remove earrings for children.

7. Footwear

For health and safety reasons, pupils are not permitted to wear shoes with platform soles, Heelys or high heels. All pupils are required to wear flat, plain black shoes without logos. Footwear should be fully enclosed with no toes visible.

Boots can be worn to and from school in the winter, however children must change into school shoes once in school.

Sandals and flip-flops are not permitted.

Pupils can bring trainers into school to change into for break and lunchtimes. Pupils must however change back into their school shoes at the end of these times.

8. Adaptations for Weather

In the cold weather, particularly in the winter months, children are expected to wear coats and are permitted to wear a hat or earmuffs, scarf and gloves. Please ensure that all items are clearly named.

On hot days, all children are expected to wear full uniform (although not jumpers). Items such as polo-shirts / short-sleeved shirts, tailored shorts and summer dresses are all appropriate in the hot weather.

On days where the weather is exceptionally hot, the school may make the decision to allow the children to wear their PE kit (blue/black shorts and white round neck jumper), however parents will be informed by the school if this decision is made.

9. Jewellery, Hair Ornaments, Make-up, Nail Varnish and Head Coverings/Scarves

For health and safety reasons, children are not permitted to wear jewellery, except for small stud earrings. The only exceptions to this rule are small objects of religious significance, which must be discussed and approved by the Headteacher before being worn.

Children are required to remove any items (including earrings) during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Your child's class teacher will inform you when PE lessons are to take place so earrings can be removed. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings.

Children are permitted to wear a digital or analogue watch, however this must **not** be a SMART watch.

Hair must be of natural colour and no extreme fashion styles including tram lines and other shaved hair patterns are permitted. The weaving of bright colours into hair styles is also not permitted. If a child has an extreme hair style parents will be contacted and asked to resolve the issue immediately or as soon as possible. Hair bands, ribbons/small bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and either black, navy blue or white. Hair bands should not have objects attached to them.

Children should not wear makeup to school this includes nail polish and temporary skin tattoos. The school reserves the right to confiscate items that are being worn or used inappropriately and may prohibit or ban any unforeseen items (that may come under 'fashion' items) not specifically included in this uniform policy.

At St Matthew's, we welcome and accept of children and families of all faiths. Pupils may wear a head covering/scarf for religious reasons. These must however be plain and either white, navy blue or black. Headscarves which drape to shoulder length or just below are acceptable. Longer headscarves are not permitted for safety reasons.

10. The Role of Parents/Carers

We believe that it is a parent/carer's responsibility to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and to ensure that it is clean, in good condition and that the child's name is written on all items.

If a parent/carer has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request, we encourage them to speak confidentially to a senior member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents/carers should be assured that we will do all we can to help.

Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform or PE clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from school where possible. Parents/carers will be contacted to discuss the matter and may be requested to return to school with the correct clothing.

If a student arrives at school not wearing the correct uniform, school will endeavour to find the cause and remedy the situation. Parents/carers will be contacted. Should the problem persist, parents/carers may be invited into school to discuss the situation.

If any parent/carer would like to request a reasonable modification to the uniform policy in relation to their child's protected characteristics, in the first instance, contact the Headteacher.

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in accordance to the school's complaints procedures.

11. The Role of Staff

Staff should support the Leadership Team in maintaining high standards of uniform dress. They should ensure that they are role models in the wearing of appropriate clothing (including on trips).

Where pupils fail to wear the correct uniform, staff should make discreet and sympathetic enquiries.

Where pupils are wearing the correct uniform, staff should give positive encouragement.

Staff should also be aware that sometimes a pupil's standard of dress may indicate care issues at home. If this is suspected, it should be referred to a Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL).

12. The Role of Governors

The governing body supports the Head of School in implementing the school's 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 enables children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

13. Special Circumstances

Special dispensation can be requested for temporary exception from the prescribed school uniform or

elements of it. This will usually be on medical grounds or for other exceptional circumstances. The Headteacher and/or Deputy Headteacher will have the ultimate decision on granting or refusing this.

14. Lost Property

Any unidentified items of school uniform will be taken to the school office and placed in the lost property box in the front entrance. Parents and children are encouraged to look here to reclaim lost property, on the understanding that the found item will be clearly named. Children can become upset as a result of lost clothing. Please help us to reunite lost items of clothing with their owners by labelling items with your child's name.

15. Uniform Swap Shop

The St Matthew's Swap Shop provide free items of second-hand school uniforms to families who may require these. As well as uniforms, they can also provide PE kits, shoes and coats if required.

We also welcome donations of good quality second hand uniform which will be used to supplement our uniform swap shop.

16. Monitoring and Review

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy by:

- Seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy
- Considering, with the Head Teacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform.

17. Where to Purchase Uniform

Branded uniform including sweatshirts, cardigans, polo shirts, t-shirts and bags are available from Baker & Son Schoolwear in Wellington who also offer the option to order online.

To order online please enter the following: www.bakerandsonschoolwear.co.uk. Their contact details are as follows:

29 New Street
Wellington
TF11 1LU
01952 641897

More cost-effective unbranded uniform can be purchased from most supermarkets.

Appendix 1

Please label everything.

School Uniform



School Jumpers can be purchased from Baker and Sons - Wellington
<https://www.bakerandsonschoolwear.co.uk/>



BAKER & SON
SCHOOLWEAR



Please label everything.

PE Kit

Your child will participate in 2 Physical Development/PE session per week. One indoor and one outdoor. You will be informed of when these are within the first week of your child starting in September.



Please no logos or leggings
Children come to school wearing their PE kit on days they have PE



Appendix 2



St Matthew's CE (Aided) Primary School and Nursery Centre



'I can do all things because Christ gives me strength' Philippians 4:13

Church Road,
Donnington Wood,
Telford,
TF2 7PZ
Tel: 01952 386 260
Email: a3358@taw.org.uk
Web: www.stmatthewscofe.com

Date: _____

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has come to our attention that your child is wearing incorrect school uniform. We would like to work with you to ensure that all our children are in the correct uniform to represent St Matthews Primary School whilst at school and also in the wider community.

Today your child _____ came to school wearing inappropriate uniform:

Item of inappropriate uniform worn	
Footwear	Accessories/Jewellery
Trousers	Make- Up
Jumpers	Hair style/Colour
T-shirt/Shirt	PE kit

Any further information regarding the inappropriate uniform may be provided below:

Please ensure that they are in the correct uniform tomorrow, appropriate school uniform details can be seen overleaf. If there are any issues regarding this, please contact the school to speak to

Mrs A. Cadman
Pastoral Lead

Mrs R. Wilson
Deputy Head

