

OUR LADY OF LOURDES RCPS SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

Policy approved by: Governors	Date: June 2024
Last reviewed: June 2024	
Next review: June 2026	

Mission Statement

We follow in the footsteps of Jesus to love, learn and grow.

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for school uniform in our school prospectus, on our website and written in this policy.

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

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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity 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 or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex or gender

- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the Executive Headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. These will be considered on a case-by-case basis

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, 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 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
- 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

Our school's uniform

- The full uniform list is written in Appendix 1
- For health and Safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewelry. The exceptions to this rule are stud earrings in pierced ears. Children are required to remove stud earrings during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury
- Hair bands, ribbons/ bows should be plain and either blue or black
- Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of hours function, for example, a school disco
- Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school. The use of styling products should not be used and children should not have decorative patterns cut into their hair or have their hair coloured or dyed. Long hair should be tied back
- Children should not wear platform soles or high heels in school

Where to purchase it

- Some items of school uniform can be purchased at PTs, Monkhouses, Murrays or online through Gooddies
- School Ties are bought directly from the school office at the cost of £3.00
- There is an **optional** extra curricular kit for all children to wear in PE lessons, after school clubs as well as for competitions and festivals. These kits are available from the Macron store. www.macronstoremanchester.co.uk. These kits are subsidized through sponsorships
- School often has a stock of donated uniform items which are always in excellent condition. Parents and carers can contact the school office to enquire about this uniform

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)

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 are also expected to contact the Executive Headteacher 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 / Carers 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.

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 Assistant Headteacher if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the Executive Headteacher in line with the Home School Agreement.

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.

Federation Governors

The Federation 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.

Appendix 1

School Uniform List

Reception Uniform

Blue polo shirt

Blue / black joggers or leggings

School sweatshirt/cardigan **(with logo)**

Black trainer shoes

School book bag

Navy or black coat

Children in Reception do not need a PE Kit

Year 1 and above

School tie

Blue shirt

Navy skirt/ pinafore dress or dark grey trousers

School sweatshirt/cardigan **(with logo)**

Navy tights or white / blue / grey socks

Black school shoes

Navy or black coat

School book bag or school rucksack

Summer Uniform

Blue and white gingham dress or dark grey school shorts

School sweatshirt / cardigan **(with logo)**

White socks

Black shoe shoes

Navy or black coat

P.E Kit Year 1 and above

Pale blue t-shirt

Blue or black shorts

Long blue tracksuit bottoms for outdoor PE lessons

Pumps for indoor PE and trainers for outdoor PE

Children can wear the Extra curricular kit for their PE lessons if they have one.

Extra Curricular Kits

There is an optional extra curricular kit for all children to wear in after school clubs as well as for competitions and festivals. These kits are available from the Macron store.

www.macronstoremanchester.co.uk

STOCKISTS

Online at Gooddies

www.macronstoremanchester.co.uk

or

PTs, Bury Market Hall, Market Parade, Bury, BL9 0QE

Monkhouses, 86 The Rock, Bury, BL9 0PB

Murrays Family Clothing, 26 Bridge Street, Ramsbottom, BL0 9QA

School Ties are bought directly from the school office at the cost of £3.00

Please remember to label all your child's uniform as it is very difficult to find a misplaced item of clothing without identification.