

ST JAMES' UNIFORM POLICY

This policy has the School's Motto at its heart.

**Faith in action,
Growing together,
Walking in the footsteps of Christ**

OVERVIEW

At St James' we have high standards and expectations and this is reflected in the pride we take in our school uniform and the feeling of belonging that it creates. We believe that our uniform policy helps to create a sense of community. It is a part of our identity, fostering a sense of inclusivity. By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. Uniform makes us all equal. The children come to school looking the same way; no one has to feel awkward about the clothes they have or do not have. Uniform gives us all an identity to be part of and proud of. All pupils make a commitment when they put on their St James' uniform that they will abide by the rules of our community. Our uniform identifies us and reinforces our culture of high expectations and academic achievement. Uniform unites us as a community. We learn, practise, play and succeed together. This, in turn, supports positive behaviour and contributes to high standards of teaching and learning. School uniform sets an appropriate tone for learning. Uniforms are professional. Children look smart and are ready to learn. Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform should be practical, smart, designed with health and safety in mind and is affordable. We want our uniform to be good value for money and we aim to avoid unnecessary clothing expense for parents. Adhering to our uniform policy is part of our Home/School Agreement and parents should communicate with us if there is a specific reason why their child is unable to follow this policy. We expect all pupils to follow the dress code. If pupils are not dressed in the appropriate uniform parents will be contacted and asked to bring missing items in.

We ask that all uniform is clearly labelled with the child's name, either with name tapes or permanent marker.

Our uniform supplier is Oz in Petts Wood and branded school uniform can be purchased from them. We expect all our children to wear a school jumper or cardigan carrying our logo and the school tie. All other items can be purchased from any High Street store, supermarket or online. New starters will be given a uniform list so that they can order uniform ahead of their start date.

Second-hand uniforms can benefit all parents. In addition, by extending the life of garments, it is more sustainable. The PTA holds second-hand uniform sales each year with details available from the school office.

In cases of hardship, we would ask that families contact the school for assistance.

No jewellery is allowed except for an analogue or digital watch which must be removed for PE. Exceptions may be made at the discretion of the Headteacher if devices need to be worn for medical or training purposes as advised by external specialists. Children may wear small, plain silver or gold studs if they have pierced ears. These need to be covered with tape during PE. If children cannot yet remove earrings they can be covered with a plaster or tape provided by home as a temporary measure. Nail varnish and make up is not allowed. Children need a coat for school, school bag, wellies for Reception Class and in the summer all children need a sunhat – all to be provided from home and named.

Some children choose to wear shorts under their skirt or dress for modesty. These should be plain black in winter and plain white if worn under a summer dress.

The summer uniform can be worn in the summer term and can still be worn up to the October half term holiday if the weather is hot.

The school cannot accept liability for any missing or lost personal possessions.

Children will be encouraged and reminded to wear the correct uniform. They will be asked to remove jewellery or accessories that do not form part of the uniform. These will be kept securely until the end of the day and then returned to the child.

Hair styles

Hair should be neat and tidy. Long hair should be tied back. There should be no extremes of style or colour and no shaved lines or patterns. Hair accessories should be discreet, plain and red or black in colour.

Role of the Governing Body:

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the School 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. The Governing Body is receptive to any reasonable complaint from parents concerning uniform, handling it respectfully, and will consider fully the issues they raise. Governors should aim to work with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Role of the Parents:

We believe that one of the responsibilities of parents is to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that it is clean, in good repair and that the child's name is written on all items. Parents should ensure that their child adheres to the school's uniform policy and upholds the high standards of dress and appearance set by the school. They should ensure that their child comes to school in uniform everyday unless there are special circumstances such as Christmas events, school visits or charity fundraising.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

AUTUMN /WINTER

Girls

Grey skirt
(KS 1 can wear a pinafore)
White shirt
White socks or black tights
Smart black Shoes (No heels, trainers or boots that are above the ankle)

Boys

Grey trousers

White shirt
Grey socks
Smart black Shoes (No trainers or boots that are above the ankle)

Branded Items:

School tie (Gold with red stripe)
Red school cardigan/ jumper (Bearing the school logo)
Both branded items can be purchased from Oz school uniform shop, Petts Wood.

SPRING/SUMMER

Girls

Red striped dress
White socks
Smart black shoes (No heels, trainers or boots that are above the ankle)

Boys

Grey trousers or shorts
White polo shirt with St James' logo
Grey socks
Smart black shoes (No trainers or boots that are above the ankle)

Branded item:

White polo shirt (Bearing the school logo)
Branded item can be purchased from Oz school uniform shop, Petts Wood.

P.E. KIT

- Plain White T Shirt with no logos or patterns
- Red Shorts
- Plimsolls (no laces) and trainers
- Plain black tracksuit with no logos, patterns, hood or zips

Additional Information

- Long hair must be tied back at all times.
- Hair accessories should be plain black or red.
- There must not be any hair colourants, gel or extreme hairstyles.
- Small gold or silver plain stud ear rings are permitted but must be taken out during PE.

All children should have a labelled painting apron.

Branded Item: A KS1 school rucksack is optional. This can be purchased from Oz school uniform shop, Petts Wood.

Racial Equality and Equal Opportunities:

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the school uniform allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals. St James' is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be updated in line with any new developments in the school and/or any new government guidance.

It was last reviewed in autumn 2022 and it will next be reviewed in autumn 2025.

This statement of policy was approved by the Governing Body at their meeting on: -

Date: _____

Signed:

_____ (Chairperson)

_____ (Head teacher)