

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Harrogate,

A Voluntary Academy

Let all that you do be done in love

'Be grateful; Be humble; Be brave; Be giving'



Uniform Policy 2026-2027

Policy Created - September 2026
Person Responsible- Gillian Delahay
Ratified by Academy Council- October 2026
Review date- September 2028

General Statement of Policy

St Joseph's is committed to providing a school uniform that is practical, affordable and inclusive. We believe that a smart and consistent uniform promotes a sense of belonging, supports equality and helps pupils feel part of the school community.

The school aims to ensure that uniform requirements represent good value for money, support health and safety, and are suitable for the full range of school activities.

Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all legislation including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Equality Act 2010

This policy also has due regard to all relevant guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- DfE School Uniform: Guidance for Schools (updated 2026)

This policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies and documents:

- Safeguarding and Child Protection Policy
- Complaints Policy

Roles and Responsibilities

The Governing Board is responsible for:

- In consultation with the Head Teacher and wider school community, establishing a practical and smart school uniform that reflects the school's vision and values.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents/carers, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Making sure uniform policies comply with the limit on branded items of school uniform and PE kit from 1 September 2026. The limit is set out in the Education Act 1996 (as amended by the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026). The statutory guidance has more information on the limit.
- Ensure that, in developing and implementing their uniform policy, they comply with the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010 and take into account key considerations such as safeguarding requirements and the health and safety of their pupils.

The Head Teacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that school staff understand this policy and know how to respond where a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform.
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community regarding the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the Governing Board.
- Providing pupils with exemptions as appropriate e.g. for a pupil who has injured their foot, allowing suitable footwear.

Teaching and support staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy at all times.
- Taking appropriate action when pupils are in breach of this policy.
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important e.g. to establish school identity.

Parents/carers are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the Head Teacher 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 Head Teacher has granted an exemption.
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate.
- Respecting why a school uniform is important to the school e.g. to develop a sense of belonging.

Cost and Availability

St Joseph's is committed to ensuring that school uniform is affordable and provides good value for money.

In line with Department for Education guidance, the school:

- Keeps compulsory branded items to a minimum.
- Allows most uniform items to be purchased from a range of retailers.
- Provides access to second-hand uniform where possible.
- Considers the financial impact of any proposed uniform changes

All other uniform items may be purchased from any retailer supplying school uniform. The school will consider requests for support from families experiencing financial hardship and will signpost available assistance where appropriate.

Religious Clothing / Ceremonial Wear

St Joseph's respects and values the religious beliefs and practices of all members of the school community. We are committed to ensuring that our uniform requirements do not unlawfully discriminate against pupils on the grounds of religion or belief.

The school will endeavour to accommodate requests for religious clothing, head coverings and ceremonial dress wherever possible, provided that these do not compromise the health, safety or welfare of the pupil or others, or prevent the pupil from taking a full part in school activities.

Parents/carers wishing to discuss any aspect of the uniform requirements in relation to their child's religion or beliefs are encouraged to make an appointment with the Head Teacher.

Requests relating to religious clothing or ceremonial wear will be considered sensitively and on an individual basis by the Head Teacher, in consultation with the Governing Board where appropriate. Any decisions will be made in accordance with the school's Equality duties, Health and Safety requirements and Complaints Policy.

Equality

The school is committed to ensuring that this policy is applied fairly and does not unlawfully discriminate against any pupil on the basis of a protected characteristic under the Equality Act 2010.

Care has been taken to ensure that the cost of similar uniform items, for example trousers, shorts, skirts and pinafore dresses, is not disproportionate and does not place an unnecessary financial burden on families.

The school endeavours to ensure that its uniform is inclusive and as gender-neutral as possible. Pupils may wear any item of uniform permitted within this policy, regardless of sex or gender.

Reasonable Adjustments

The school recognises that some pupils may require adjustments to uniform requirements due to a disability, medical condition, sensory need, religion or belief, or other exceptional circumstances.

Requests for reasonable adjustments will be considered on an individual basis by the Head Teacher in consultation with parents/carers and, where appropriate, relevant professionals.

The school will work collaboratively with families to ensure that reasonable adjustments support the pupil's needs while maintaining the principles of this policy.

Complaints and Challenges

The school aims to resolve any concerns relating to school uniform promptly, fairly and informally wherever possible.

Parents/carers who wish to raise a concern or make a complaint regarding this policy should do so in accordance with the school's Complaints Policy.

When concerns are raised, the school will work collaboratively with parents/carers to reach a reasonable and mutually acceptable outcome.

The Governing Board will consider requests for flexibility where there are exceptional social, cultural, religious, medical or financial circumstances.

Non-Compliance

The school will approach non-compliance with this policy in a supportive and proportionate manner, taking account of individual family circumstances.

Where a pupil attends school in clothing that does not comply with this policy, staff will seek to establish the reason and work with parents/carers to resolve the issue.

In exceptional circumstances, where clothing is inappropriate, unsafe or displays offensive language, images or slogans, the Head Teacher or a member of staff may ask the pupil to change into suitable clothing if available. Where this is not possible, parents/carers may be contacted and asked to provide appropriate clothing.

Where specific clothing or footwear is required for a particular activity and suitable alternatives are not available in school, parents/carers may be contacted and asked to provide the necessary item.

Sanctions for breaches of this policy will be used only as a last resort. The school is committed to working with pupils and families to resolve concerns in a timely, sensitive and supportive manner.

Our Uniform

In line with current statutory guidance, the school keeps the number of compulsory branded items to a minimum. The compulsory branded items are:

- **School jumper or cardigan**
- **School tie (KS2 ties)**
- **School PE hoodie**

Optional branded items include:

- PE T-shirt
- Polo T-shirt
- Book bag

All other uniform items may be purchased from any retailer selling school uniform, provided they meet the colours and requirements set out in this policy.

The uniform is as follows:

KS1 (Reception, Year 1 and Year 2)

- White polo shirt, or a white shirt with the school elasticated/clip-on tie (optional).
- School purple jumper or cardigan.
- Grey trousers, grey shorts, grey skirt or grey pinafore dress.
- Plain grey socks or grey tights.
- Black school shoes.

KS2 (Years 3 to 6)

- White short- or long-sleeved shirt.
- Traditional school tie.
- School purple jumper or cardigan.
- Grey trousers, grey shorts, grey skirt or grey pinafore dress.
- Plain grey socks or grey tights.
- Black school shoes.

Summer Term Options

- Grey shorts may be worn instead of trousers.
- Purple gingham dresses may be worn.

Uniform can be purchased from [Emblazon](#) and [Rawcliffes](#).

PE Kit

Children are asked to come into school on the day of their PE lesson wearing their PE kit. They can wear it for the full school day. Parents/carers are responsible for ensuring their child is dressed appropriately for PE.

- Logo or plain white t-shirt,
- Plain black shorts, navy or black joggers/leggings,
- Purple jumper or logo hoody and trainers.

Swimming

- Swimming Trunks or Costume
- Swimming Cap (where required by the swimming provider or for pupils with long hair)
- Swimming Towel
- Waterproof Swim Bag

Additional Information

- All items of clothing should be clearly labelled with your child's name.
- School-branded jumpers, cardigans and ties are available from our uniform supplier.
- Other uniform items can be purchased from any retailer selling school uniform.
- Trainers should only be worn as part of PE kit.

Jewellery and Personal Appearance

- Jewellery, nail varnish and make-up are not permitted in school.
- Pupils may wear one pair of plain stud earrings and a sensible wristwatch.
- Long hair should be tied back.
- Hair accessories should be simple, discreet and plain purple or white.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to personal items.

For health and safety reasons, all jewellery must be removed for PE lessons, swimming lessons and other sporting activities. If a child is unable to remove their own earrings, parents/carers should ensure they are removed before coming to school on the day of the activity.

Adverse Weather

Hot Weather

Everyone working at/attending the school during hot weather conditions is required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of their skin as possible. School will contact families if there is a change to the school uniform e.g. wearing school PE kits instead of school uniform.

In addition, please provide your child with:

- Sun-safe hats
- Sunglasses with UV protection
- Suncream (children must be able to apply this themselves and it must be labelled and handed to the child's class teacher)

During hot weather, lightweight clothing is required to reduce the risk of overheating. Pupils are not required to wear their jumpers/cardigans during heatwaves.

If outside during break and lunch times, pupils not wearing sun-safe clothing/sunscreen are advised to stay in an area protected from the sun.

Cold Weather

During cold weather, pupils are required to wear scarves, gloves, coats and hats when they are outside.

Additional layers underneath the usual school uniform are accepted.

Where it is possible, pupils not wearing warm clothing are provided with spare clothing if going outside during break and lunch times.

Appropriate footwear can be brought into school to change into for walking to/from school and for going outside e.g. wellies or snow boots.

Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed every two years by the Governing Board, or sooner if required by changes in legislation, statutory guidance or school curriculum.