

St Mary's PS Killesher



Uniform Policy

Date Approved by Board of Governors: June 2023

Next Policy Review Date: June 2025

Chair of BOG: Fergal Cleary

Principal: Mr J Cunningham

Introduction

It is our policy that all children should wear our school uniform when attending St. Mary's Primary School Killesher, or when participating in school-organised events outside of normal school hours.

Our school uniform is important to us. It helps us identify ourselves as a school family. We believe it promotes a strong, cohesive identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life.

We believe that by wearing a school uniform, we promote effective discipline which contributes to more effective learning and teaching.

This Policy adheres to the guidelines provided by the Department of Education Northern Ireland (Circular 2011/04) (Re-issued 5 June 2018).

Rationale

Our policy is based on the notion that a school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as current trends might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is cost effective;
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

The Role of Parents

We ask all parents for their support regarding our school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work. Parents are also asked to clearly label all items of clothing, including footwear, with their child's name.

Our School Uniform:

Boys	Girls
Navy trousers Yellow polo shirt with school crest Blue jumper with school crest Black shoes / Trainers	Navy skirt/ pinafore / trousers and navy socks/tights Yellow polo shirt with school crest Blue jumper/cardigan with school crest Light blue chequered dress in warm weather Black shoes / trainers
PE Kit: Yellow T-Shirt Navy Shorts, Trainers	PE Kit: Yellow T-Shirt Navy Shorts, Trainers
P1 – P5 Wear their PE kit to school on PE days. (P6/7 will change into their PE kit in school)	P1 – P5 Wear their PE kit to school on PE days. (P6/7 will change into their PE kit in school)



O'Neills Half Zip

Children can wear the O'Neills Half Zip to school but they must also bring their school jumper to school. The Half Zip can replace the jumper on PE days.

Trips or Sporting Events

For class trips, sporting events and special occasions, staff will advise pupils on the most appropriate attire for the activity.

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are plain gold or silver earring studs in pierced ears. Please note that watches are not considered items of jewellery and may be worn. However, depending on the activity, it may be appropriate for children to be asked to remove their watches on health and safety grounds.

Uniform Grant

Financial assistance is available through the Education Authority's 'School Uniform Grant Scheme' for certain categories of pupils attending primary schools. Further details are available from www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants.

Non-Compliance with our School Uniform Policy

Where a pupil is not adhering to the school uniform policy, we will make discreet enquiries as to why this is the case as there may be several valid reasons for it. Where financial circumstances are preventing pupils from wearing the correct uniform, we will be sensitive to the situation and allow parents sufficient time to purchase the required items. Pupils should not feel uncomfortable or discriminated against because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of uniform.

The Role of Governors

The Board of Governors supports the Principal in implementing the school's Uniform Policy. They consider all representations from parents regarding this Policy and liaise with the Principal to ensure that the Policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

Monitoring and Review

The Board of Governors is rightly proud of how pupils look in their school uniform and express thanks to parents/guardians in anticipation of their valued support in this important area of school life. Parent and pupil views are valued and considered when the Policy is being reviewed and will be taken into consideration at the next review of this policy. The Governors and Principal will consider carefully any request for an exception to be made for any individual pupil, on the grounds of religion, race, gender or a medical condition.