

School Uniform/Dress Code Policy

Introduction

This policy is the result of the collaboration of the Management, staff, parents and pupils of St. Luke's NS.

St. Luke's NS has a long tradition of wearing a school uniform. The uniform has and continues to create and foster a sense of belonging and identity with St. Luke's.

This policy has been developed to provide clarity for all parties as to the uniform and procedures.

On enrolment in St. Luke's, Parents accept the terms of this policy and agree to abide by the school uniform policy guidelines.

Rationale

The need for the school to devise this policy has arisen out of a submission from the parents in 2023 regarding the wearing of tracksuits more regularly in the school week.

Parents were surveyed on the tracksuit question and on the uniform in general after the BOM discussed the parent submission.

This policy has considered the results of and is representative of the outcomes of those surveys.

Aims

This Policy aims to:

- Clarify and be specific in relation to the exact items of clothing acceptable as part of the school uniform in St. Luke's.
- State where items can be purchased – specifically the school tracksuit and any crested items.
- Give a description of individual items of clothing permissible as part of the school uniform.
- Give guidance as to what items of clothing/jewellery/accessories are NOT permitted as part of the uniform.

What is Our school uniform?

The uniform in St. Luke's NS is comprised of the following items of clothing:

- Navy V-Neck jumper/cardigan – with or without buttons.
- Navy Pants / skirt / pinafore / shorts (not sports shorts).
- Light blue shirt
- Navy Tights/socks
- Navy tie (optional)
- Sensible black shoes/smart all black runners

All items on this list are generic (no crest) and can be purchased in most clothing outlets – Penneys, Dunnes, Marks and Spencers, Tesco, Aldi, Lidl etc.

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Examples of the uniform are as follows:



The school tracksuit was selected from samples by parents in the 2020/21 school year and can only be purchased from:

- Cork Clothing Company,
Unit 3, Frankfield Business Park,
Ballycurreen, Cork. T12 RPR9 (Next to Musgrave)
Tel: 021 2038088 / www.corkclothing.ie

An example of the school tracksuit is as follows:



Some families have an older version of the tracksuit. This is still acceptable but is now out of production for future purchases.

No other garments or accessories other than those listed in the following sections can be worn with the uniform or tracksuit.

Other Items of Clothing Permitted in School

Pupils wear combinations of the following in the various seasons:

- Coats, jackets and rain gear
- Hats, scarves, gloves and snoods
- Base layers

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- Shorts – plain navy sports shorts for tracksuit days and plain navy tailored for uniform days – shorts should be of a length that is closer to the knee.

General Requirements

Pupils should not wear items of clothing that are a trip hazard or are flowing and could get caught in hooks etc.

Pupils should not wear items of clothing that are too tight/restrictive.

Pupils need to be identifiable so should not wear items of clothing that cover their faces – the exception to this is if directed/recommended to wear masks by the HSE or a doctor.

Jewellery and Accessories

The school discourages wearing most items of jewellery or accessories on health and safety grounds.

Examples include but are not limited to necklaces (metal/rope), bracelets (metal/rope), dangling or looped earrings, metal watches and any other item that could get caught in hooks etc. and pose a health risk.

However the following are permitted:

- Stud earrings
- Watches – rubber/leather band
- Rubber wrist bands/bracelets

Hair

For Health and Safety reasons, the school strongly encourages longer hair to be tied back from children's faces to ensure good visibility. Hair that is tied up has also been shown to prevent the spread of headlice.

Makeup, nail varnish and false nails/lashes

Makeup of any kind is not permitted in school.

Nail varnish is not permitted.

False nails and lashes are not permitted in school, this is to limit peer pressure.

What days for uniforms and tracksuits?

Class teachers will make the decision for their individual classes and communicate with parents to keep them informed of when to wear uniforms/tracksuits.

Timetables are subject to change in line with external teachers coming in e.g. Drama, Yoga etc. Parents will be informed of any changes by their children's class teachers.

Parents can contact class teachers directly via Aladdin to clarify uniform/tracksuit days in their children's classes.

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Generally classes will wear tracksuits on 2-3 days per week throughout the school year.

Some events throughout the year will involve wearing tracksuits, dressing up or no uniform days. These events will be communicated in advance.

**Children are expected to wear full uniform on request for official events.
Teachers/the Principal will communicate this prior to the event(s).**

Roles and Responsibility

Parents and pupils have the responsibility to ensure that they are in compliance with this policy. Teachers and management will endeavour to identify any health and safety risks and remind pupils and parents of this policy if necessary.

Implementation/Ratification and Review


This policy has been developed in *St Luke's NS* in January 2024. It will be reviewed again in January 2028 (or as is needed).

Ratification of Policy, Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Management periodically every 4 years.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 27/2/24

Signed: 
Chairperson of Board of Management

Signed: 
Principal

Date: 27/2/24

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Next Review Date: January 2028