

St Nicolas' Church of England Combined School



Our School Vision

Jesus said, 'I am the vine and you are the branches'.

Our school is rooted in the Christian Faith. Nourished by God, we want to grow together drawing on His strength to live out our Christian values so that we can reach out to others in our community. We are all unique but together with God we want to be the best that we can be. As we learn together in a supportive and nurturing school, we will thrive and be ready to face the challenges of life.

UNIFORM POLICY

Members of staff responsible:

Head teacher

Chair of Governors

Governing Board

Date of policy last review: March 2024

Review: March 2026

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1. 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

2. 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 sex, race, religion or belief, 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
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the headteacher, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

3. 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 must 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. We ask only that the jumper/cardigan, house PE t-shirt and EYFS/KS1 bookbag feature the school logo.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- 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 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

4. Expectations for school uniform

4.1 Our school's uniform

We want our children to look smart at school and feel proud to wear their uniform. Our children are expected to wear their uniform with pride both in school and until they return home.

The school colour is royal blue.

School uniform should be mostly plain and should act as a social leveller.

EYFS and KS1

White polo shirt

Royal blue named bookbag to fit in classroom tray (Goyals)

Royal blue PE drawstring bag

KS2

White school shirt

Blue and gold tie (Goyals)

All children

Plain outdoor coat

Royal blue V-neck sweatshirt or sweatshirt cardigan with school logo (Goyals or PTA)

Mid or dark grey school trousers, shorts, skort, skirt or pinafore.

Black school shoes

Grey or white socks, or grey cotton tights

Long hair to be tied back. Ties/bands to be small, practical and in blue, black or neutral colour.

Blue gingham check summer dress with white socks (optional, may be worn in summer term until autumn half term)

PE kit EYFS

Part of the early years' curriculum is to be able to change for PE independently, so we practice this during the autumn and spring terms.

House-coloured school logo t-shirt (Goyals)

Pumas: blue, Lions: yellow, Tigers: green, Jaguars: red. Children are allocated a house team prior to starting school and siblings are given the same house team.

Royal blue shorts

Royal blue tracksuit bottoms

PE kit is worn with royal blue V-neck sweatshirt or sweatshirt cardigan with school logo (Goyals or PTA)

Royal blue PE drawstring bag

Children will not need trainers, plimsolls or socks for PE until transition to Y1 begins in the summer term.

PE kit KS1 and KS2 (this is worn to school on the two PE days a week)

House-coloured school logo t-shirt (Goyals)

Pumas: blue, Lions: yellow, Tigers: green, Jaguars: red. Children are allocated a house team prior to starting school and siblings are given the same house team.

Royal blue shorts (or skort in KS2)

Royal blue tracksuit bottoms

Plain black or white trainers or plimsolls

White ankle socks (not trainer socks)

PE kit is worn with royal blue V-neck sweatshirt or sweatshirt cardigan with school logo (Goyals or PTA)

Royal blue PE drawstring bag

All children

All clothing must be clearly named so we can return it when lost.

Backpacks/bags if brought should be small and simple as we have limited space for storage and they should act as a social leveller.

In the interest of hygiene, all long hair must be tied back.

The wearing of jewellery (except simple watches and stud earrings) is not permitted without discussion with the headteacher. Smart watches are not permitted.

All jewellery must be removed for PE and remains the responsibility of each child. Children must remove their own earrings and, if this is not possible, they must be taped over before school for safety.

4.2 Where to purchase it

- Our school sweatshirt or cardigan, house-coloured PE t-shirt and tie can be purchased from Goyals, along with the recommended bookbag for EYFS/KS1 which fits neatly into children's trays.
- Other suitable items with the school logo are available from Goyals, but not compulsory.
- All other items can be sourced from high-street retailers or online.
- We actively encourage parents to purchase pre-loved school uniform from our PTA. Items are good quality and can be purchased online and delivered via the school office.
- Pre-loved clothing is sustainable and raises funds for the school.
- We appreciate donations of clean, good quality uniform items, which families can drop into the school office.

Goyals <https://goyalsmaidenhead.co.uk/>

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (other than on specified non-school uniform (muffi) 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

Pupils may contact the headteacher if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 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 expected to contact the 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 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.

5.3 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 headteacher if the situation does not improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy may be dealt with in referral to our behaviour policy.

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.

5.4 Governors

The 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 priority to cost and value for money, for example by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the headteacher. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Equalities policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Behaviour policy
- Complaints policy