



# School Uniform Policy

January 2024



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## Introduction

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school. We ask children to wear their shirts tucked into their skirts or trousers and to take pride in their personal appearance. Uniform can be bought from the local school uniform shop 'TaylorMade Uniforms Ltd'.

We are conscious that uniform can be expensive for families and point out that many items are also available, at very competitive prices, at supermarkets. There are only a few uniform items that are bespoke to St Peter's, with our school logo on (school jumpers / cardigans being the most important). Whilst we encourage parents to buy the official items, we are happy for comparable dark green items that match our uniform, to be used if it helps to save families money.

Alternatively, we collect a great deal of second hand uniform, which is in excellent condition. This can be purchased from our PTA secondhand uniform 'shop' at a very reasonable price. Please ask at the school office, if you wish to use this service.

A complete list of the items needed for school uniform including those for Physical Education, is printed in Appendix 1.

## Aims and Objectives

Our policy on school uniform is based on the belief that school uniform:

- promotes a sense of pride in our school. Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their St Peter's uniform they will abide by the rules of the community.
- helps to create a sense of community and belonging towards the school
- identifies the children with the school
- supports our commitment to inclusion
- is practical, smart and designed with health and safety in mind
- is considered good value for money by most parents
- uniforms reduce distractions. We are focused on achieving success. When pupils are allowed to wear their own clothing, there is the potential to talk about fashions and styles rather than learning.
- uniforms make us all equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to school looking the same way. No one has to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- uniforms look professional. Pupils will be prepared for the next stage in their lives where secondary schools have similar high expectations for pupil appearance. Many employers also have similar expectations and a company dress code or policy.

## Jewellery, Watches, Hair, Make-up and Nail Varnish

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear jewellery. The exceptions to this rule are ear-ring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance. Children are required to remove any items during PE lessons to prevent them from causing injury. Please note: Teachers are not permitted to remove earrings. A period of taping earrings will be allowed just after piercing but after 6 to 10 weeks pupils will be required to remove their earrings themselves. If they can't they should not wear earrings on PE days. If a child wants to pierce their ears the school encourages parents to do this at the start of the summer holidays as this creates the least disruption for the child.

Wrist watches may be worn but only for the purpose of telling the time. 'Smart' watches linked to mobile phones are not permitted. Hair bands, ribbons/bows or 'scrunchies' should be plain and not oversize. Hair bands should not have large flowers attached. Make up and nail varnish should not be worn to school unless for an out of school hours function, for example a school disco.

Extreme hairstyles are not appropriate for school for the reasons stated in the 'Aims and Objectives' above. The use of styling products should be kept to a minimum and children should not have shaved areas or decorative patterns or 'tram lines' cut into their hair; or have their hair coloured or dyed. For health and safety reasons and to ensure it does not distract from learning, we advise that long hair be tied back. The Headteacher reserves the right to decide what constitutes the term 'extreme' and will take a reasonable approach based on the expectations of local secondary schools / employers.

### **Footwear**

For health and safety reasons we do not allow children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels. All children are required to wear plain black shoes or trainers without logos as stated in the uniform list.

Boots are not permitted but may be worn to and from school in poor weather. If boots are worn to school pupils are requested to have a pair of school or PE shoes to wear whilst inside the school building.

### **The Role of 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. If a parent has difficulties for any reason with fulfilling this request they are asked to speak confidentially to a senior member of staff to discuss the issues. Parents should be assured that we will do all we can to help. Children who arrive at school wearing non-school uniform clothing will be loaned an appropriate item from our nearly new shop to wear for that day. The same system will apply for children who do not have a PE kit. Parents will be contacted to discuss the matter. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, for example on religious grounds, why parents want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will consider such requests sympathetically. If any parent would like to request a modification to the uniform policy they should, in the first instance, contact the headteacher.

### **The Role of Governors**

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 hard wearing, safe and practical.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The governing body monitors and reviews the school uniform policy through its committee work by:

- seeking the views of parents, to ensure that they agree with and support the policy
- considering, with the headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have special dispensation with regard to school uniform.

### **Human Rights, Equality and Discrimination Considerations**

St Peter's CE Primary Cowfold follows the DfE School Uniform Guidance for governing bodies, school leaders, school staff and local authorities (September 2013) and is committed to ensuring no pupil is disadvantaged through the application of this School Uniform Policy.

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#### **St. Peter's – Policy Summary**

Policy Title:	School Uniform Policy		
Scope:	ALL PUPILS		
Reviewed by:	Headteacher (2024)	Review Cycle:	Bi-Annual
Ratified by FGB:	9 <sup>th</sup> February 2022	New Review:	January 2026

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## Appendix 1 - School Uniform List

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At St Peter's we expect all parents to send their children to school wearing the correct school uniform. This helps to create an identity of which the children can be proud.

The uniform includes:

- green sweatshirt or cardigan (with school logo)
- grey skirt or pinafore
- black or grey trousers or shorts
- grey jogging bottoms for reception children only
- grey or white socks
- grey or green tights
- white shirt or polo shirt
- green gingham or candy stripe summer dresses for girls
- black, low-heeled sensible shoes or dark sensible sandals
- fleece with logo (optional)
- summer baseball cap
- any style topcoat
- *Jewellery, transfer tattoos and nail varnish are not allowed for girls or boys.*
- *Small stud earrings are permitted if pupils can remove them for P.E.*
- *Long hair should be tied back.*

In PE children should wear:

- plain, dark green shorts
- yellow, green, blue or red tee-shirt (depending on which House they are in)
- trainers (bare feet for dance and gymnastics)
- dark, plain jogging bottoms, without logos (optional)
- black plimsolls/light trainers
- and have a clearly named PE kit bag

**TaylorMade Uniforms Ltd** are our official school uniform supplier. Their address and phone number is Unit 1, Holmbush Potteries, Crawley Rd, Faygate, Horsham RH12 4SE Tel 01293 640154

**For Secondhand Uniform** please contact the Friends of St Peter's Charity via the school office.