

School Uniform Policy

Cardinal Newman Catholic School



CARDINAL
NEWMAN
CATHOLIC SCHOOL

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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
- 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 age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- 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 a way that is appropriate for school and makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves for religious reasons
- Allow pupils with sensory or physical needs to make reasonable adaptations to their uniform depending on their specific needs

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 (DfE) on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to 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/carers' 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 at Cardinal Newman Catholic School, students must wear the tie, jumper and blazer which features the school logo.
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting parents/carers 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 uniform

- Black blazer with school logo
- Black jumper with school logo
- Clip on school tie
- Plain, white school shirt
- Plain black, tailored trousers or plain black pleated skirt (legging, tight-fitting trousers or excessively short skirts are not permitted)
- Black school shoes (no canvas pumps or trainers are permitted)
- Black tights or black socks
- Outdoor coats must be black or navy blue.
- Black tailored, knee length shorts may be worn from Easter until October half term.
- Pupils are permitted to wear a single, small stud in their ears and a watch. No other jewellery is permitted.
- Make up, nail varnish, acrylic nails or brightly coloured hair are not permitted.
- PE kit includes: black shorts or skirt with school logo, school logo PE top and school PE socks.

(For more information, see our school website)

4.1 Where to purchase the uniform

- Parents and carers can obtain the blazer, jumper, tie and PE kit from Cat Balou and Clive Marks.
- Other items can be bought more widely, e.g. from high-street retailers and supermarkets

The school is happy to accept any second-hand items of uniform as donations, and will operate a swap-shop where students can swap uniform where necessary within the school year. The school will remind parents throughout the academic year, particularly when Year 11 finish the end of their time at Cardinal Newman Catholic School.

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to always wear the correct uniform (other than specified non-school uniform 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 unless an alternative is specified, or where they are representing the school (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact the school SENCO 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/carers are also expected to contact their child's Head of Year or email welfare@cncs.school if they require support with their child's uniform. E.g. they require an adaptation to the uniform policy for a specified period due to a medical condition or injury.

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 doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with via our school Behaviour for Learning 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 body 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/carers and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually as a minimum by the Headteacher and Head of Pastoral Care. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board and chair of governors.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy