

St Angela's
URSULINE SCHOOL



School Uniform Policy

Date of Review: September 2024

Date of Next Review: September 2025

St Angela's Ursuline School- Uniform Policy

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 our 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:

- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all students
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back for example in PE for Health and Safety)
- Allow all students to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school and meets school expectations as outlined in the policy
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch with the Deputy Head Teacher for Behaviour and Welfare, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests
- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all students the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender

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 have 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' 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 and carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible, for example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as the PE Kit
- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this does not compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items students could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Implement alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for inter school competitions, through providing a school lanyard
- 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 students 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

The uniform is as follows:-

Brown pleated kilt or brown trousers from the uniform shop

Blouse: White with reverse collar (Years 7 to 8)

Blouse: Gold with reverse collar (Years 9 to 11)

Brown Blazer (compulsory for Year 7- 9) and Brown Blazer with gold trim (compulsory for Year 10 and 11)

School Jumper (optional) from the uniform shop

Plain outdoor coat in black, brown or navy

Sturdy brown or black shoes suitable for school

Brown Head Scarf from the uniform shop only

The abaya is also available to be worn with the standard uniform from the uniform shop

Headbands must be plain black, brown or beige

PE Kit:

Black shorts (if desired)- no cycling shorts

Gold School Logo PE Shirt from the uniform shop

Black School Logo Tracksuit from the uniform shop

Trainers not covering the ankle

4.2 Where to purchase it

The uniform provider for St Angela's Ursuline School is:

Fashion Stop [Schoolwear]

138 High Street North, East Ham, E6 2HT

Tel: 0208 552 3200

Email: fashionstop@hotmail.com

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Students

Students are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (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, or where they are representing the school (asked to do so)
- Students are also expected to contact the Deputy Head Teacher for Behaviour and Welfare, 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:

- As outlined in the School Policy
- Clearly labelled with their child's name
- In good condition and laundered

Parents are also expected to contact the Deputy Head Teacher for Behaviour and Welfare, 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 and carers are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner
- The school has established support system for uniform costs in place for our families
- The school will work closely with parents and carers to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome

5.3 Staff

- Staff will closely monitor students to make sure they are wearing the correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply and will meet with parents and carers, if improvement is not made
- In cases of financial hardship, 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, carers and students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students
- The Governors will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually. At every review, it will be approved by the full Governors.

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour Policy, Equality Information, Anti-Bullying Policy and Complaints Policy