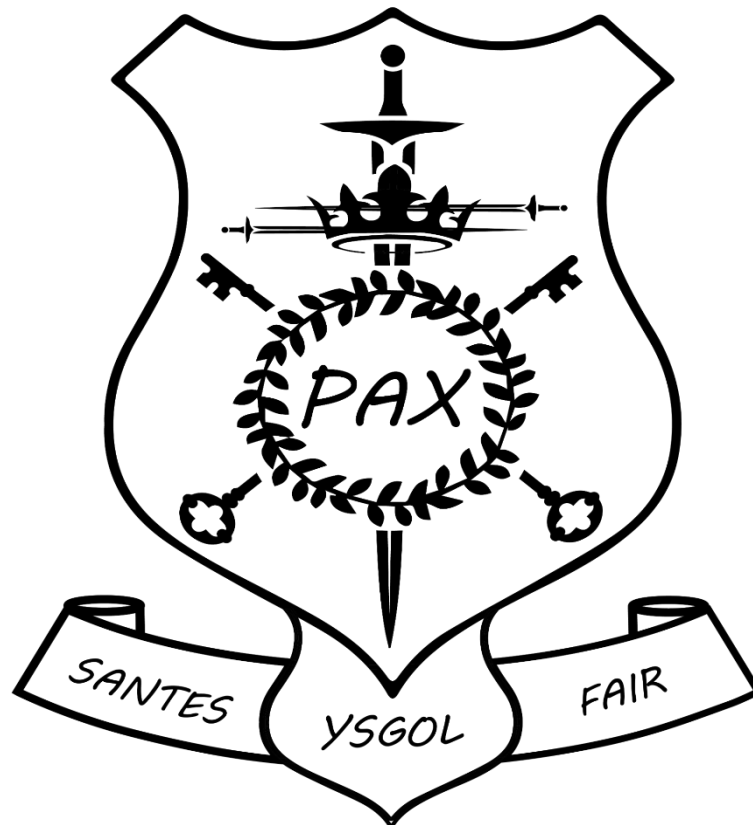


St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Ysgol Gatholig Santes Fair



School Uniform Policy

Review Date	Policy adopted by	Signed	Summary of Amendments
Summer 2026	Headteacher and Governing Body	Rachel Azzopardi 	
Summer 2029			

St Mary's Catholic Primary School

Ysgol Gatholig Santes Fair

*As a Catholic Family,
we will do our best to live and learn as
Christ taught us.*



Introduction

The power to introduce a school uniform policy is contained in Section 88 of the 'Education and Inspections Act 2006' (from January 2010). It places a duty on governing bodies to ensure that policies designed to promote good behaviour and discipline are pursued at the school. Section 89 places a duty on a headteacher to determine measures (including rules and provisions for enforcing them) to be taken with a view to promoting discipline among pupils, a proper regard for authority, encouraging good behaviour and respect for others and otherwise securing an acceptable standard of behaviour.

This policy reflects the current Welsh Government statutory guidance 'School uniform and appearance: policy guidance for governing bodies (WG23-17)', last updated May 2023 which places additional requirements on governing bodies to ensure that due regard is given to securing equality of treatment between pupils of different sexes and genders; pupils from different ethnic and religious backgrounds and disabled pupils. Cost and affordability also need to be given due regard. The guidance also references practical considerations involved in introducing or changing school uniform policies, together with consultation with parents, pupils and the community.

Welsh Government strongly encourages schools to have a uniform policy and identifies that, when appropriately implemented, it can:

- provide a sense of identity, community and cohesion within the school,
- support positive behaviour and school discipline,
- ensure pupils dress appropriately for learning activity,
- remove peer pressure to dress in particular fashions,
- enable pupils of all backgrounds to share in a common identity which embraces their particular requirements,
- help reduce inequalities between pupils and help reduce some triggers for bullying,
- benefit safeguarding and attendance policies through helping to identify truants,
- assist identification of strangers on school premises,
- support and promote the ethos of the school.

It is our school policy that all children wear school uniform when attending school, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

Uniform Details and Availability

A complete list of school uniform options are detailed below:

	Autumn and Spring Term	Summer Term	PE Kit
Nursery, Reception, Y1 and Y2	👕 White or maroon polo shirt with or without school badge 👖 Maroon sweatshirt / cardigan with or without school badge 👖 Standard grey trousers / shorts (no fashion trousers, 'skinny jeans' or leggings) 👗 Grey or maroon skirt / pinafore with white blouses / polo shirts 🧦 Grey or white socks / grey or maroon tights 👟 Black shoes *Nursery and Reception can wear maroon or dark grey jogging bottoms.	As Autumn and Spring term, however, in addition, 👗 Pink and white gingham summer dresses can be worn.	👕 House colour polo shirt / t shirt (with or without school badge) 👖 Black shorts / joggers
Y3, Y4, Y5, Y6	👕 White shirt with school tie 👖 Maroon sweatshirt / cardigan with or without school badge 👖 Standard grey trousers / shorts (no fashion trousers or 'skinny jeans' or leggings) 👗 Grey or maroon skirt / pinafore with white blouses 🧦 Grey or white socks / grey or maroon tights 👟 Black shoes	As Autumn and Spring term, however, in addition, 👗 Pink and white gingham summer dresses can be worn.	👕 House colour polo shirt / t shirt (with or without school badge) 👖 Black shorts / joggers

We do not allow pupils to wear trainers to school. We believe that this footwear is appropriate for sport or for leisurewear, but is not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all pupils to wear black shoes with their school uniform.

Embroidered school badge uniform is available from Euroschoools and Uniforms2go. Uniform is available without the badge from local supermarkets and clothes shops. These are generally less expensive than those with the school badge. All types of appropriate uniform as listed above, with or without school badge are acceptable.

The School Essentials Grant provides financial assistance to eligible families on lower incomes to support with the purchase of items such as school uniform, coats etc. Eligible families are encouraged to apply for this financial support where appropriate.

Jewellery and Accessories

On health and safety grounds we do not allow pupils to wear any dangling jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are plain earring studs in pierced ears, any items of religious observance and watches. We ask that pupils remove these objects during PE and games, to prevent them from causing injury.

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels, so we do not allow children to wear such shoes in our school. Similarly, we do not allow flip-flops or flimsy summer shoes, as these do not provide sufficient protection to pupil's feet, particularly in a busy playground.

Pupils are required to wear plain dark school shoes, that are in keeping with the general style of the school uniform. Brightly coloured / white trainers may be suitable for sports but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform.

P.E. Kit

For PE, pupils will need:

- House colour polo shirt / t shirt (with or without badge)
- Plain black shorts or jogging bottoms
- Trainers

Parents are informed of their child's PE day(s) and are expected to ensure that their child brings appropriate kit to school on that day.

We want to ensure that any costs associated with this are kept to an absolute minimum, so parents are asked to avoid expensive branded products, as this can create pressure to other families to do the same.

Extreme Haircuts

The school does not permit children to have 'extreme' haircuts / colours. Only basic hair accessories are to be worn i.e. scrunchies, bobbles and headbands which should be appropriate.

The Role of Parents and Carers

We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily learning. Parents and carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.

If any parent would like the school to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Headteacher. The school welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents and carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the school uniform, the school will look sensitively at such requests. Similarly, should an item of school uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents and carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the Headteacher. The school will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably and will endeavour to make any reasonable adjustments upon request.

Sanctions

Occasional infringement

The teacher or senior staff will first try to establish why the pupil is not complying with the policy and seek to agree a resolution with the family. If it is because families are in financial difficulties, we will endeavour to support the family, for example through the provision of second hand uniform.

Regular infringement

If a pupil is regularly not in uniform and/or wearing clothing that is considered unacceptable, the responsibility lies with the Headteacher who may contact parents directly to set out the expectations of the school policy and determine how best to seek resolution including the application of any sanctions or disciplinary action if this is felt to be necessary.

If the pupil continues to regularly infringe the uniform code, the Headteacher retains the right to require a parent to bring appropriate clothing to school, or collect the pupil to go home to change their clothes. This should be for no longer than necessary to effect the change of clothing and would only be appropriate where the change could be made quickly and easily. No pupil will be sent home indefinitely or for longer than is necessary to change clothes or modify appearance (e.g. by having a haircut) as this could amount to an unofficial exclusion.

The school does not consider exclusion to be an appropriate response to continual defiance of the uniform policy. However, where these breaches are persistent and in open defiance of the school's uniform policy, and where all other avenues for resolving the uniform dispute have been exhausted, then the school may consider exclusion as a last resort depending on the circumstances of the case. This would be done in consultation with the Governing Body.

The Governing Body has a responsibility to ensure that absenteeism does not arise because families are unable to provide uniform for their children. If that arises, the school will recommend that the family contact the Local Authority for appropriate assistance.

Lost Property and Preloved Uniform Sales

The school makes all reasonable attempts to reunite lost property with their owners. However, by its very nature, lost property generally does not have a pupil's name on it and will usually remain unclaimed. In these circumstances, the lost items become the property of the school, once a reasonable time has elapsed. We will pass good quality, unclaimed lost property on to The Friends who will sell the items at a reasonable price at their preloved uniform sales.

In order to keep lost property to a minimum, all items of clothing should be clearly labelled with the child's name.

The Role of the Governing Body

The Governing Body supports the Headteacher in implementing the school uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents and carers regarding this 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 national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our school uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.