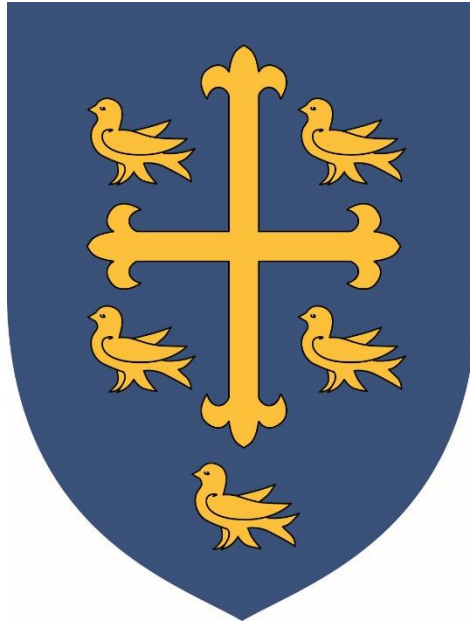


St. Edward's Catholic Primary School



School Uniform Policy 2026/27

'Jesus is at the heart of all that we do'

At St. Edward's, we are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of the children and adults in our school, and we have the same expectation of our staff and volunteers.

Policy agreed/Signed by: _____
(Mr K Connolly – Chair of Governors)

Date: _____

Agreed on: September 2026

Review date: September 2027

This policy has been developed with due regard to the Department for Education's statutory guidance, 'Cost of school uniforms', updated July 2026, and the DfE guidance 'School uniforms: guidance for schools', updated July 2026.

School Uniform Policy

“In truth I tell you, in so far as you did this to one of the least of these brothers (or sisters) of mine, you did it to me.”

Matthew 25:40

Contents:

1. Introduction
2. Legal framework
3. Roles and responsibilities
4. Limiting the cost of school uniform
5. Complaints and challenges
6. School uniform supplier
7. School uniform
8. Adverse weather
9. Monitoring and review
10. Links to other policies

1.Introduction

The staff and Governing Body of St Edward’s Catholic Primary School recognise that each individual is made in the image and likeness of God, this is a gift that we all share as fellow human beings. Every person is treated with loving respect from the moment they enter the school, and we work together to ensure that all children are welcomed and supported in school with every endeavour made to meet their individual needs. Our uniform shows that we are part of the St. Edward’s Catholic Primary School, parish and community, and is a visual sign that the well-being of each person is linked to the well-being of all. We have high expectations for our pupils with regard to school uniform and appearance and strongly believe that our high standards promote positive behaviour, support effective teaching and learning and contribute to the ethos of the school. Pupils wear their uniform with pride and a sense of belonging.

Governors and staff are aware of many of the challenges families face and are mindful how uniform and clothing expectations can exacerbate financial pressures and concerns. We keep branded items to a minimum and limit their use. We have only a limited number of products which have a school logo and encourage parents and carers to ‘shop around’ to find the best value items of uniform that they can and direct parents to best value outlets as required.

2.Legal framework

St Edward’s Catholic Primary School takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any pupil very seriously. We aim to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils can access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are, while avoiding any direct or indirect discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics or socio-economic status.

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance including, but not limited to, the following:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006

- Equality Act 2010*
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2026) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2026) 'School uniforms: guidance for schools'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

*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 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 request changes to swimwear for religious reasons or if they are experiencing discomfort related to their sex, gender or emotional well-being.

Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with the school via enquiry@stedward.bham.sch.uk, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

3. Roles and responsibilities

The governing board is responsible for:

- Establishing, in consultation with the headteacher and school community, a practical and smart school uniform that accurately reflects the school's vision and values.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible, inclusive, and does not disadvantage any pupil because of their protected characteristics or socio-economic status.
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable.
- Demonstrating how best value for money has been achieved.
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance.

The headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform rules on a day-to-day basis.
- Ensuring that teachers understand this policy and apply rules, taking into account the personal circumstances of pupils and their families.

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with this policy also taking into account the personal circumstances of pupils and their families. Ongoing breaches of the uniform policy will be dealt with in line with the **Relational Behaviour Policy**. Where a pupil does not meet the school's uniform expectations, staff will seek to understand the reasons for this and will take account of individual circumstances, including financial hardship, SEND, disability, medical needs, religion or belief and other relevant circumstances. Parents/carers will normally be contacted and offered appropriate support. Persistent breaches will be addressed proportionately and in accordance with the school's Behaviour Policy.

- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, e.g. school identity.

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in this policy.
- Informing the headteacher if their child requires an exemption to the uniform rules for a period of time, with a reason why.
- Ensuring that their child's uniform is clean, presentable and the correct size.
- Ensuring that each item of school uniform is clearly labelled with the name and class of the child.
- Approaching the school for support to access uniform if they are unable to make provisions.

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times.
- Looking after their uniform and taking responsibility for ensuring that if an item is put down, they collect it at the end of the session.
- Understanding and respecting why a school uniform is important to the school, e.g. school identity and community.

4. Limiting the cost of school uniform

St Edward's meets the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money and has developed its uniform policy in relation to the following starting principles:

- Every endeavour has been taken to ensure the uniform is affordable. In so doing, we have considered the total cost of school uniforms, taking into account all items of uniform or clothing parents will need to provide while their child is at the school.
- Branded items are kept to a minimum. The school jumper/cardigan and school tie are the only compulsory school-specific/branded items. All other compulsory uniform and PE items can be purchased from a range of retailers. This ensures that the school's uniform requirements comply with the statutory limit on compulsory branded uniform and PE items applying from 1 September 2026.
- Ensure that second-hand/pre-loved uniforms are available for parents to acquire. These are available at no cost upon request and are also set out at regular intervals throughout the school year. Preloved uniform is also available at the Hub on Bournville Green.
- Avoid frequent changes to uniform specifications, minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes.
- If children are representing the school in sporting competitions such as football matches, the school will provide the items of kit (excluding footwear).

5. Complaints and challenges

The school will endeavour to resolve all uniform complaints and challenges locally and informally, in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy. The school will refer individuals who wish to complain to the Complaints Procedures Policy and request that they follow the procedures outlined therein. When a complaint is received, the school will work with the complainant to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

6. School uniform supplier

The school's current school uniform supplier is Clive Marks, 38-40 Poplar Road, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7AD. Telephone: 0121 728 6860. School jumpers and cardigans with a logo can be purchased here. School ties, reading bags and woollen beanie hats can be purchased from the school office. All other items can be sourced at a high street shop or supermarket.

7. School Uniform

Winter (October half term) until Easter

- royal blue cardigan/jumper with the school logo
- white cotton shirt and school tie
- grey trousers, grey pinafore dress or grey skirt
- white or grey socks/ tights
- black school shoes

Summer (Easter to October half term)

- royal blue cardigan/jumper with the school logo
- white shirt unbuttoned (tie can be removed during hotter weather)
- grey shorts, trousers, skirt or pinafore
- blue and white gingham dress
- white or grey socks
- black school shoes

PE: children are allowed to wear PE kits for the whole day if it is their PE day. However, PE kits are not allowed to be worn to Mass.

- white plain round-neck t-shirt
- royal blue shorts
- royal blue or navy blue jogging bottoms for outside winter PE lessons
- black plimsoles for indoor PE
- trainers for outside PE lessons
- In winter the school jumper (with logo) can be worn.

See Appendix A for further details.

Jewellery

No jewellery is to be worn i.e. bracelets or necklaces, as school cannot take responsibility for lost items and these can pose a health and safety risk.

Earrings

Earrings are not to be worn due to health and safety reasons. We recommend that any parent wishing for their child to have their ears pierced should do so at the start of the summer holidays. This ensures that the pierced hole is healed after the initial period of time recommended for non-removal and thereafter earrings can be taken in and out frequently.

Watches

Inexpensive, simple analogue or digital watches can be worn. No smart watches or Fitbits due to the advancement in technology which enables videos and recordings of voices to be made within the school day.

Hairstyles and headwear

The school has reasonable expectations regarding hairstyles, hair colour and headwear. Any restrictions will be reasonable, proportionate and applied consistently, taking account of the Equality Act 2010, including race, religion or belief, disability, sex and other relevant protected characteristics. Individual circumstances will be considered where appropriate. Parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face, or cause a health and safety risk. Long hair should be tied up.

The following hairstyles, hair colours and headwear are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured dyed hair
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours
- Excessive hair accessories (small bows in school colours are permitted)
- Headwear featuring inappropriate words or images

Makeup and cosmetics

The school rules on makeup and cosmetics are as follows:

- No makeup is permitted
- False nails and nail extensions are not permitted
- Nail varnish is not permitted
- Temporary tattoos are not permitted

8. Adverse weather

All pupils will be advised to wear weather-appropriate clothing

For hot temperatures, this includes wearing:

- Suitable hat when outside
- Sunglasses with UV protection when outside

Pupils will be advised not to wear any jumpers during heatwaves

In cold weather pupils should wear:

- Scarves, gloves, coats and hats when outside

9. Monitoring and review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the chair of governors and the headteacher.

The next scheduled review date for this policy is September 2027. The school will engage with parents and pupils when reviewing this policy. Any subsequent changes to this policy will be communicated to all staff, pupils, parents and other relevant stakeholders.

10. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Relational Behaviour policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

Appendix 1

SCHOOL UNIFORM SEPTEMBER 2025

WINTER UNIFORM



Royal blue jumper or cardigan with the school logo



White shirt and school tie



Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore



Grey or white socks, or grey tights



Black leather shoes

SUMMER UNIFORM



Royal blue jumper or cardigan with the school logo



White open neck shirt



Grey shorts



Light blue and white gingham dress (not skorts)

PE KIT



White round neck t-shirt (no logo)



Royal blue shorts or royal or navy blue joggers