

St Thomas More Catholic Primary School

UNIFORM POLICY

**Date: July 2023
Review: July 2024**

It is our policy that children wear school uniform. In addition to giving children a feeling of belonging to their school, it is also more practical for parents. We also believe it is important that certain activities are facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing when attending school, or when participating in a school organised event outside normal school hours.

School uniform can be purchased in the following ways:

**Karl Sports,
Unit 7 Trafalgar Road,
Kettering,
NN168DB
(Just behind B&Q).**

Telephone 03300 080401.

<http://karlsportsclothing.co.uk/choose-your-school>

There are many items that can also be purchased online or in local shops and supermarkets.

Aims

Our policy for children's school uniform is based on the belief that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school
- Supports a feeling of community and belonging
- Is practical and smart
- Identifies the children with the school
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- Has been designed with health and safety in mind

St Thomas More Uniform

Our main school colour is red.

Our uniform is:

- Red v neck jumper with logo
- Red cardigan with logo
- White shirt or blouse
- School tie (KS2)
- Grey trousers, shorts(summer), skirts, pinafore dresses.
- Plain grey, black or white socks or tights.
- Black smart shoes
- Black smart boots (winter)
- Pink checked dress (summer)

PE Kits

- Plain black shorts, jogging trousers or leggings
- Red PE top with logo
- Black hooded jumper with logo

- Trainers

On PE days, Forest school days or school trips, the children attend wearing their P.E kit.

Optional items are:

- Bookbag with logo
- Red cap with logo
- Red fleece with logo
- Red waterproof coat with logo

Jewellery

On health and safety grounds we do not allow children to wear jewellery in school, with the exception of one pair of stud earrings. These should not be worn to school on days when children have PE. Small objects of religious significance are allowed. Watches for children are encouraged.

Nose studs, bangles, necklaces, hoops or earrings that are not studs are not permitted.

Make up and Cosmetics

Make up and cosmetics, including nail varnish, are not considered appropriate or consistent with our school uniform. The school does not permit such products to be worn by any children, unless there is a specific event for which the Headteacher has given permission.

Hair

Whilst we respect the backgrounds, cultures and beliefs of all our families, we expect all children to maintain appropriate and sensible haircuts, which is at the discretion of the Head Teacher and Senior Staff.

Children are not permitted to have any kind of patterns or lines cut into their hair, this includes 'v' cuts or 'Mohican'-type styles. This extends to patterns on eyebrows. Neither are they allowed to have artificially coloured hair.

Children will be continually made aware of this through ongoing school uniform monitoring by all staff. Parents will be reminded of this through newsletters and conversations with staff. Children breaking these rules will be sent with their parents to get the patterns removed and then must return to school or receive an 'unauthorised absence'.

Ongoing unauthorised absence will lead to the school passing unauthorised absence information to the Local Authority. This may result in them choosing to get in touch with parents or fining parents.

Breaching Uniform Policy

It is very important that parents inform the school as soon as there is an issue with sending their child to school without uniform and the school will do its best to assist with this.

The following list are examples of actions that the school will take if there are breaches of the policy:

- The child will be asked to change into the appropriate piece of missing uniform. This 'bank' of uniform will be made up from unclaimed lost property and old uniform which has been donated to the school. It will be clean and of good quality. They will then change at the end of the day and the property will remain in school.

- The child will be asked to remove inappropriate accessories, jewellery etc and they will be sent home at the end of the day.
- The parent will be asked to take the child home to change into the correct uniform or remove cosmetics.
- The child may be removed from their classroom environment and be taught separately from their peers.
- The child will not be allowed onto the playground during break times.
- Where the breach is with regards to hair, the parent will be asked to ensure that immediate action is taken to remedy the situation e.g. lines are removed, dyed hair is returned to its natural colour.
- The child may receive a fixed term exclusion in extreme circumstances

The school will be considerate if a pupil does not keep to the uniform policy, and try to find out why it is happening. If a family is having financial difficulties, the school will allow for this and give the parents time to buy the right items. Pupils should not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents cannot provide them with the right school uniform.

Human Rights and Anti-Discrimination Issues

While pupils must adhere to the school's uniform policy, schools must be considerate to the needs of different cultures, races and religions. Schools must always act reasonably and sensibly in accommodating religious requirements, providing they do not pose a threat to security, safety and learning, or compromise the well-being of the school community.

Schools must not discriminate on the grounds of gender, race, disability or religious belief. It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities. Governors ensure that the school uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.