

# Greyfriars Catholic School

*A Catholic School that champions all students so they flourish individually and collectively.*



## Uniform Policy

**Revised:** September 2022

**Review Date:** September 2025

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### Contents

1. Aims
2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
3. Limiting the cost of school uniform
4. Expectations for school uniform
5. Expectations for our school community
6. Monitoring arrangements
7. Links to other policies

### 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.
- 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:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
- 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 the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols.

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.

## **3. Limiting the cost of 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 of our blazer and tie mean that these items cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers. However, we are limiting the cost for families by limiting the braided uniform to just this. All other aspects of the uniform can be bought from major retailers allowing families to shop around.

We have allowed leather look trainers also as these can be bought at a fairly low price, are comfortable and can be worn outside of uniform.

## **4. Expectations for school uniform**

### **4.1 Our school's uniform**

#### **Aims and objectives**

Our policy on school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school.
- Engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the school.
- Is practical and smart.
- Identifies the children with the school.
- Prevents children from coming to school in fashionable clothes that could be distracting in class.
- Makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- Is designed with health and safety in mind.

The uniform at Greyfriars Catholic School is:

- Black blazer with Greyfriars Catholic School logo
- Black tailored trousers (no jeans or stretchy material)
- Black tailored school skirt (no stretchy material)
- Black or grey socks worn below the knee
- Tights should be plain black or grey
- White school shirt
- School tie (red with grey stripe)
- Grey v-neck jumper (optional)
- Religious dress can be worn but also must include a white shirt, school tie and a school blazer
- Headscarves / hijab must be in keeping with school colours of black or grey

## **4.2 Other uniform information**

### **Uniform for Physical Education**

For PE, students should wear:

- A black and red sports t-shirt available from our uniform supplier.
- Black shorts or sports trousers.

### **Footwear**

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults and is mindful of cost. Plain black shoes are permitted and plain black leather-look trainers are allowed to be worn.

### **Jewellery**

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear excessive jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are:

- One ear-ring stud in each pierced ear.
- Small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain or Sikh Kara.

We ask the children to remove these objects during PE, games for health and safety reasons.

Medical identification bracelets may be worn by children who have significant medical problems eg. diabetes or epilepsy.

### **Eyelashes and Nails**

False eyelashes, nail extensions and false nails are not allowed.

### **Coats and Hats**

Showerproof or waterproof coats are to be removed when in the classroom. Hats are to be removed when entering a building.

## 4.3 Where to purchase it

Our uniform can be bought from:

<https://www.stevensons.co.uk/school-finder/st-gregory-the-great-catholic-school-oxford>

There are also opportunities to get second-hand uniform at a reduced cost.

Information about second-hand uniform, for example:

- Our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) will arrange a second-hand uniform sale at school events.
- We are currently setting up a uniform exchange scheme; if you have uniform you would like to donate or swap please get in touch with [office@gfcs.uk](mailto:office@gfcs.uk)

## 5. Expectations for our school community

### 5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform events) 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 (if required.)

### 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 are also expected to contact the Year Leader or Pastoral Manager 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 are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally.
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy.

The school will work closely with families to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

### **5.3 Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in the 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 through the 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 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 and pupils.
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils.

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money.

## **6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Senior Leadership Team in collaboration with the Governing Board. At every review, it will be approved by the Chair of Governors.

## **7. Links to other policies**

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour for Learning Policy
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy