



**Holy Cross**

CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## **School Uniform Documentation**

**Contents:**Statement of intent

1. Legal framework
2. Roles and responsibilities
3. Cost principles
4. Equality principles
5. Complaints and challenges
6. School uniform supplier
7. Uniform assistance
8. Non-compliance
9. School uniform
10. Labelling and lost property
11. Monitoring and review

## Statement of intent

Holy Cross Catholic High School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital for:

- Promoting the ethos of a school
- Providing a sense of equality, belonging, identity and mission
- Setting an appropriate tone for education

For the purposes of this document, “**uniform**” includes the following elements of pupils’ appearance:

- Clothing, including the school uniform and PE kits
- Hairstyles and headwear
- Jewellery
- Cosmetics

**This document is to be read in conjunction with the School Uniform Policy.**

This document lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive school uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, is affordable, and provides the best value for money for both the school and pupils’ families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are dressed in a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

In writing and updating the school uniform policy, we have sought to:

- Engage with parents and pupils
- Consider how the policy might affect groups represented in the school, especially those who share protected characteristics as defined by the Equality Act 2010
- Consider how comfortable the uniform will be for pupils
- Ensure that the uniform is suitable and safe for pupils who walk or cycle to school
- Choose a PE kit which is practical, comfortable, appropriate to the activity involved and affordable
- Ensure the school uniform policy is easy to access and understand

## Legal framework

The uniform 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)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021
- DfE (2021) 'Cost of school uniforms'
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2021) 'School uniforms'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

The uniform policy operates in conjunction with the following school policies:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Equality Policy

## Roles and responsibilities

The governing body 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
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of parents, pupils and the wider school community regarding changes to the school's uniform
- Ensuring that the school's uniform is accessible and affordable
- Demonstrating in this document how best value for money has been achieved
- Ensuring compliance with the DfE's 'Cost of school uniforms' guidance
- Processing and approving all eligible School Uniform Assistance Application Forms

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- Enforcing the school's uniform rules on a day-to-day basis
- Ensuring that teachers understand the uniform policy and what to do if a pupil is in breach of the policy
- Listening to the opinions and wishes of the school community in regard to the school's uniform and making appropriate recommendations to the governing board
- Providing pupils with an exemption as appropriate, for medical reasons eg for a pupil who has a broken arm and requires a loose-fitting shirt

Staff are responsible for:

- Ensuring that pupils dress in accordance with the school uniform policy at all times
- Where appropriate to their role, disciplining pupils who are in breach of the school uniform policy
- Ensuring that pupils understand why having a consistent and practical school uniform is important, eg school identity and equality
- Communicating with parents regarding uniform expectations

Parents are responsible for:

- Providing their children with the correct school uniform as detailed in the school uniform 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

Pupils are responsible for:

- Wearing the correct uniform at all times, unless the headteacher has granted an exemption
- Looking after their uniform as appropriate
- Understanding and respecting why the school uniform is important to our school, eg school identity, equality and community

### **Cost principles**

The school will develop its uniform policy in relation to the following starting principles:

- The school will seek to ensure that the uniform is affordable. In so doing, the school will consider 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
- The school will seek to keep the use of branded items to a minimum
- The school will seek to ensure that uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, including the quality and durability of the garment
- The school will seek to ensure that second-hand uniforms are available for parents to acquire

The cost of school uniform within the Chorley district ranges from:

School bundle price £149 to £232. The Holy Cross school uniform bundle is £185

School skirt price £19.99 to £40.00. The Holy Cross skirt is £19.99 or £24.99

PE leggings / shorts price range from £14.99 to £31.00. The Holy Cross price ranges from £15.50 - £22.50

Please note prices correct as of July 2024

### **Principles in practice**

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the Headteacher will ensure that the school's uniform requirements do not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to

making any changes to the school uniform. When evaluating whether costs are reasonable and proportionate, the school will take into account the opinions and situations of:

- Economically disadvantaged parents
- Parents with multiple children who are, or will be in the future, pupils at the school
- Parents of younger children, as they are likely to grow quickly and require new sets of uniform more frequently
- Parents of pupils with protected characteristics that may impact their ability to access the uniform
- LAC and PLAC

The school will keep variations in school uniform for different groups of pupils, eg year group-specific items or house colours, to a minimum to ensure that pupils can get the most wear out of their uniform and that parents can pass some items down to younger siblings.

The school will keep branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, eg supermarkets, due to the item's logo, colour, design, fabric or other unique element. Where the school requires an item of branded clothing, it will assess how prices can be kept as low as possible and put measures in place to facilitate this. This may include:

- Ensuring branded items are longer-lasting and unlikely to be worn out quickly, eg ties.
- Making donated second-hand uniform available for purchase at a lower price.

The school will meet the DfE's requirements and recommendations on costs and value for money. Care will be taken to ensure that school uniform is affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school will work with multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated will be passed to parents where possible. The school will not enter into exclusive single-supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements. More information on supplier processes can be found in the '[School uniform supplier](#)' section of this policy.

The school will not make frequent changes to uniform requirements and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes.

### **Equality principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid unlawfully discriminating against any pupil very seriously.

In line with the above, the school will aim to ensure that its 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.

Parents' concerns and requests regarding school uniform and amendments to it are handled on a case-by-case basis by the Headteacher and governing body and always in accordance with the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Information on how the school ensures its uniform policy does not discriminate against pupils with specific protected characteristics is outlined within the School's Equality Policy.

## **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.

In considering a complaint, parents should be aware that teachers can sanction pupils for breaching the school's rules on appearance or uniform. The school expects this to be carried out in accordance with the school's published behaviour policy.

### **School uniform suppliers are:**

**JADA, 213 Eaves Lane, Chorley, PR6 0AG.**

Telephone No: 01257 271592

Email: [info@jadaonline.co.uk](mailto:info@jadaonline.co.uk)

Website: [www.jadaonline.co.uk](http://www.jadaonline.co.uk)

**Andrew Leach School Wear, 98 Winter Hey Lane, Horwich, Bolton, BL6 7PJ – only main uniform, PE Kit not available.**

Telephone No: 01204 697624

Website: <http://www.andrewleachschoolwear.co.uk>

Email: [andrewleach@gmx.com](mailto:andrewleach@gmx.com)

## **Non-compliance**

Pupils will be disciplined by staff for breaching the school uniform policy.

If a pupil does not comply with the uniform policy, they will be loaned the item of uniform to wear.

If a pupil refuses to wear the loaned item, they will be sent home. A parent will always be contacted before sending the pupils home - if contact with the pupil's parents cannot be made, the pupil will remain in school in isolation.

Where a pupil has been sent home to rectify uniform breaches, the absence will be recoded as 'authorised'. If a pupil repeatedly breaches uniform rules, or takes longer than necessary to rectify the breach, the absence will be recorded as 'unauthorised'.

Parents will be notified of pupils' breaches of school uniform in all cases.

## **Labelling and lost property**

Parents will be advised to ensure that all pupils' clothing and footwear is clearly labelled with their name and year group.

Any lost clothing will be taken to the school uniform store. All lost property will be retained for one month and will be disposed of if it is not collected within this time.

## **Monitoring and review**

This document will be reviewed annually by the Senior Leadership Team in line with the review of the Uniform Policy which will be reviewed by Governors and the Headteacher.

Any subsequent changes to this document or the school uniform policy will be communicated to all staff, pupils, parents and other relevant stakeholders.

**Updated Summer 2024**  
**Review Summer 2025**