



# **St. Mary's Primary School & Nursery, Killyclogher**

## **School Uniform Policy**

## **Introduction**

It is our policy that all children should wear school uniform when attending St. Mary's Primary School and Nursery Unit, Killyclogher, or when participating in a school-organised event outside normal school hours.

Our school uniform is important to us. It helps us identify ourselves as a school family. We believe it promotes a strong, cohesive identity which supports high standards and expectations in all areas of school life.

Our school uniform promotes harmony between different groups represented in the school and it enhances security, assisting the school to identify individual pupils in order to maintain good order and spot intruders more easily. We believe that by wearing a school uniform, we promote effective discipline which contributes to more effective learning and teaching.

This Policy adheres to the guidelines provided by the Department of Education Northern Ireland (Circular 2011/04) (Re-issued 5 June 2018).

## **Rationale**

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

- promotes a sense of pride in the school;
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
- is practical and smart;
- identifies the children with the school;
- is not distracting in class (as current trends might be);
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
- is cost effective; and
- is designed with health and safety in mind.

## **The Role of Parents**

We ask all parents for their support regarding our school uniform policy. We believe that parents have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for their daily school work.

Parents are also asked to clearly label all items of clothing, including footwear, with their child's name.

## Our School Uniform:

### NURSERY SCHOOL UNIFORM

School uniform consists of:

- Plain navy tracksuit bottoms
- White polo shirt with St. Mary's Nursery Unit crest
- Navy sweatshirt with St. Mary's Nursery Unit crest
- Trainers with Velcro fastenings

### SCHOOL UNIFORM in Years 1-7

School uniform consists of:

Girls	Boys
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Navy skirt or navy pinafore</li><li>• White school shirt</li><li>• Navy V-neck school jumper with St. Mary's school crest or navy cardigan with St. Mary's school crest</li><li>• Navy and white striped school tie</li><li>• White socks or navy tights</li></ul> <p><i>Girls may wish to wear navy school PE shorts under their skirt for active play.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Navy trousers</li><li>• White school shirt</li><li>• Navy V-neck school jumper with St. Mary's school crest</li><li>• Navy and white striped school tie</li></ul>

### PE UNIFORM

Under Department of Education guidance, pupils should change for their PE lessons. Our school PE uniform for all pupils consists of:

- White polo shirt with navy trim on collar with St. Mary's school crest
- Plain navy shorts or plain navy tracksuit bottoms or plain navy leggings
- Trainers (Trainers with Velcro fastenings are best for Years 1, 2 and 3)
- Navy V-neck school jumper with St. Mary's school crest (or navy cardigan with St. Mary's school crest)

*Sports tops, hoodies etc. are not allowed to be worn over PE uniform.*

## Optional Summer Uniform (during Term 3 only)

Girls	Boys
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Navy and white checked gingham dress</li><li>• Navy V-neck school jumper with St. Mary's school crest or navy cardigan with St. Mary's school crest</li><li>• White socks</li></ul> <p><b>or</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White polo shirt with navy trim on collar with St. Mary's school crest</li><li>• Plain navy shorts</li><li>• Navy V-neck school jumper with St. Mary's school crest or navy cardigan with St. Mary's school crest</li><li>• White socks</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• White polo shirt with navy trim on collar with St. Mary's school crest</li><li>• Plain navy shorts</li><li>• Navy V-neck school jumper with St. Mary's school crest</li></ul>

Sports tops, hoodies etc. are not allowed to be worn over optional Summer uniform.

### Stockists of School Uniform

Most items of our school uniform are available for purchase in high street shops and large supermarkets. The stockist for our crested school items and school tie is: Select Kidz Omagh (near Dunnes Stores car park).

### Trips or Sporting Events

For class trips, sporting events and special occasions, staff will advise pupils on the most appropriate attire for the activity. For example, children may be asked to wear their own clothing, their own running gear, their own sportswear or school-branded running vests or jerseys (which school provides).

### Long Hair

Pupils are encouraged to tie long hair back at all times. It is necessary for pupils to tie long hair back during P.E. activities (i.e. swimming and gymnastics) if the length of a child's hair is deemed to be a concern due to health and safety considerations. 'The Association for Physical Education's Safe Practice in Physical Education and School Sport', Seventh Edition (2008).

### Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our school. The exceptions to this rule are plain gold or silver earring studs in pierced ears. Please note that watches are not

considered items of jewellery and may be worn. However, depending on the activity, it may be appropriate for children to be asked to remove their watches on health and safety grounds.

### **Uniform Grant**

Financial assistance is available through the Education Authority's 'School Uniform Grant Scheme' for certain categories of pupils attending primary schools. Further details are available from [www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants](http://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants)

### **Non-Compliance with our School Uniform Policy**

Where a pupil is not adhering to the school uniform policy, we will make discreet enquiries as to why this is the case as there may be a number of valid reasons for it. Where financial circumstances are preventing pupils from wearing the correct uniform we will be sensitive to the situation and allow parents sufficient time to purchase the required items. Pupils should not feel uncomfortable or discriminated against because their parents are unable to provide them with the required items of uniform. The school will assist with the offer of uniform from its Uniform Exchange where needed.

### **The Role of Governors**

The Board of Governors supports the Principal and Senior Leadership Team in implementing the school's Uniform Policy. They consider all representations from parents regarding this Policy and liaise with the Principal to ensure that the Policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

### **Monitoring and Review**

The Board of Governors is rightly proud of how pupils look in their school uniform and express thanks to parents/guardians in anticipation of their valued support in this important area of school life. Parent and pupil views are valued and considered when the Policy is being reviewed and will be taken into consideration at the next review of this policy. The Governors and Principal will consider carefully any request for an exception to be made for any individual pupil, on the grounds of religion, race, gender or a medical condition.