Uniform policy

Loving God – Serving others – Flourishing together

RESPECT – ASPIRE – REJOICE

Last reviewed in:	17 September 2026
Next review due by:	September 2029

*"**Encourage one another and build each other up.**"*

1THESSALONIANS5:11

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VISION AND VALUES

Our vision is applied across all policies and guides our work: **Loving God - Serving others - Flourishing together**. Our school values are extremely important in supporting and guiding us in our actions and interactions with others. Our school values are verbs. They are things we do to help us live out our vision, to: **Respect, Aspire, Rejoice.**

We expect all pupils to Aspire to a high standard of personal appearance at all times, and the dress code is part of the image of the school. The Governors and staff are very proud of the children and pleased with the support shown by parents. When parents are offered places at St. Mark's for their children, both parents and school sign a Home/School Agreement. One of the rights of parents is that their child is part of a school with high standards of dress and behaviour. We encourage pride in the pupils and the school and the school dress code is part of the image of the school. The Governors and Headteacher insist that this is followed by every pupil.

Our school is committed to ensuring that our uniform policy is fair, affordable and compliant with current government guidance. In line with statutory requirements, the school has carefully limited the number of compulsory branded uniform items to the minimum necessary, helping to reduce costs for families while maintaining a strong sense of school identity and pride. Parents are able to purchase non-branded items from a range of retailers, ensuring greater choice and value. Please ensure that non-branded items are of the same style and colour as those available from our uniform supplier. See guidance in this policy.

All uniform and property must be named. Children are discouraged from bringing personal valuables to school. We do not accept any responsibility for loss or damage to personal property of pupils.

Our uniform list is as follows:

School uniform

- Yellow polo shirt with St. Mark's logo[1].
- School grey V-neck jumper (with yellow piping) **or** cardigan (with yellow piping) with St. Mark's logo.
- Grey blazer with St. Mark's logo (*optional*).
- Black trousers **or** shorts (no three-quarter length shorts) **or** black knee-length skirt **or** black pinafore **or** yellow/white checked summer dress.

[1] St Mark's logo, referred to throughout this policy, references the logo show on the front of this policy

- Black socks (ankle/knee high) **or** black tights **or** white socks (ankle/knee high) with yellow/white checked summer dress.
- Black formal leather or leather-look shoes. Heel limit of 1 inch. No open-toed/open-back sandals, jelly shoes, boots, casual shoes. Trainers only to be worn on PE days.

P.E. Kit

- Emerald green short-sleeved polo shirt with St. Mark's logo
- Plain black shorts/skort
- Short black socks
- Plain black tracksuit, preferably with St. Mark's logo, for winter
- Trainers

Swimming Kit

- Black swimsuit **or** trunks
- Towel
- Swim hat (may be purchased from the school office)
- Flip flops or Crocs (in case of evacuation)
- Named goggles (*optional*)

Pupils should wear P.E. kit to school all day on P.E. days and full uniform on all other days.

Footwear

To promote high standards of dress, shoes should be black and of a formal leather or leather-look style. Casual canvas shoes, trainers, boots or open shoes/sandals are not acceptable.
Where alternative footwear is necessary to support a medical condition, it should be plain black and accompanied by a doctor's certificate.





Hair

Hair at or below shoulder length (all pupils) must be tied back at all times in school, but especially during P.E. and games lessons. School hair ties should be in appropriate colours and styles suitable to blend with school uniform (yellow/white [uniform days] or green/black [P.E. days] bands). Hair should be off the face, clipped back and not obscuring sight.
Pupils should not wear extreme hair fashions which are designed to attract attention, including dyed or streaked hair, styles such as spikes or images/lines cut into the hair.

Jewellery & Make-up

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery or make up in school. The only exceptions to this rule are pierced ears and wearing a watch. Ear piercings should be kept to one small, simple stud earring in one or both ears, any logo or emblem as part of the earring is unacceptable. Ears should be pierced at the beginning of the summer holiday to allow adequate healing time before returning to school in September as **all items of jewellery must be removed for all P.E. and games lessons, including swimming**. If your child is unable to remove their earrings themselves, please do not send them to school wearing them.
Smart watches with camera or games functions are not allowed. Make up and nail varnish are not allowed. Please note that the school cannot take responsibility for any lost jewellery.

Pupils are expected to follow the same dress code with regard to hair and jewellery on non-uniform days, unless it is a themed event.

Certain items of jewellery and headwear may be worn by pupils when doing so is genuinely demonstrating religious or racial beliefs or identity. This is subject to considerations of safety and welfare and the school's existing uniform policy principles. Where there is uncertainty as to whether an item may be worn on this basis, the issue must be referred by the pupil or the pupil's parents to the Headteacher, whose decision will be final, subject to the complaints procedure set out in the Complaints Policy and Procedure.

If you have any queries, or need advice, please consult the school **before** purchasing items or committing to piercings or hair styles.

Accessories

Coats can be any colour but must be practical and waterproof coats should be worn during wet weather. Any colour of hats/gloves/scarves may be worn in addition to coats during cold weather but must be named. Sun hats can be any colour but must also be named.

This policy cannot deal with every possible new fashion and variation of dress and hairstyles. The Headteacher, supported by the Governing body, reserves the right to take exception to hair styles and dress which deliberately breach the general school dress code.

Pre-loved uniform

We have a selection of pre-loved uniform for sale in the school office shop. These items are much less expensive than buying new.

Necessitous Clothing Allowance Scheme

St Mark's C Primary School operates a Necessitous Clothing Allowance to ensure no pupil is prevented from attending or taking part in school life because their family cannot afford essential uniform or kit. The scheme supports pupils who meet BCP means-tested criteria, those in immediate crisis, looked-after children and pupils with an EHCP, and is designed to be discreet, dignified and responsive to need. When reviewing our uniform we follow the DfE's guidance on cost, inclusivity and reasonable adaptations and the school's wider commitment to supporting families so every child can flourish. Full details of the Necessitous Clothing policy, eligibility, how to apply and available support are published on the school website; if you need help understanding or applying for the scheme, contact the school office.