



St James School

Policy: Uniform

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Review Committee: Students and Curriculum

Author of Policy: Jamie Wordsworth

St James School Uniform Policy

The Governors and staff of St James School believe that a school uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos of a school and setting a standard and instilling pride. The uniform items fulfil the criteria of clothing that is suitable, comfortable and affordable for an effective learning and teaching setting in a safe and healthy environment.

Governors accept their responsibilities under the Sex Discrimination Act 1975, Human Rights Act 1998, and Disability Discrimination Act 1995 and appreciate that the school uniform should not discriminate on grounds of race, religion, sex or culture.

Aims

Through our uniform and dress code we aim to:

- Encourage pride in the school
- Support teaching and learning
- Enable students to be comfortable, safe and secure
- Encourage a sense of equality and belonging to the school community
- Protect students from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- Support parents to provide an efficient and value for money dress code for their children
- Ensure that students from different social, religious and ethnic groups feel welcome.

Students are expected to arrive at school and to leave the premises in full uniform. On some occasions such as PE taught lesson 5, it may be appropriate for students to leave in full St James School PE kit.

1. Duties of Teachers Concerning Uniform

TUTORS should check that the correct uniform and makeup is being worn at the start of the morning and afternoon sessions of the day. At the start of each lesson, TEACHERS should, after calling the register, check that correct uniform is being worn. This should include checking that all students are wearing their blazer and tie. Permission may be given to remove blazers depending on room temperature. **Checks should be made by all teachers at the start of all lessons;** these should be brief and should be a normal and expected part of the start of lessons, often they will be so routine, they will not be obvious to people observing lessons.

The maintenance of a high standard of school uniform is the responsibility of every member of staff. The purpose of this policy is to ensure all members of the school community are clear on expectations and they are consistently applied.

Specific Guidance

2. The following notes are intended to provide guidance in some situations and are not exhaustive. Please contact the school if you require any further clarification.

(a) Colour and Design of Fabric

Colours and designs of fabrics must be as stated in the uniform regulation, eg “plain” should not be interpreted as “patterned” or “black” as “navy blue”.

(b) Blazers

A black blazer with the St James School logo must be worn at all times in school unless a teacher has given permission to remove it whilst in their lesson.

(c) **Shirts**

A plain white shirt with collar and buttons up to the neck, tucked into trousers or skirt (not a polo shirt). Any tee-shirts worn underneath the shirt must be white and not showing.

(d) **Style of Trousers**

Girls' trousers should be classic cut and reasonably loose fitting and should not be tight. They should be plain black trousers that do not trail on the floor. They should not be skinny jeans, skinny trousers, stretchy trousers or leggings. They should not be flared or bell-bottoms, jeans, canvas or corduroy or turn-ups.

Boys' trousers should be plain black trousers that do not trail on the floor. They should not be skinny jeans, skinny trousers, stretch, leggings, baggy, flared or bell-bottoms, jeans canvas, corduroy, turn-ups or chino style.

For both girls and boys; plain black or white socks must be worn. If belts are worn, they should be narrow and plain black with a small buckle. Logos on belts are unacceptable.

(e) **Skirts**

Girls may wear a black knee-length skirt instead of trousers if preferred with no pattern or additional colours visible on the skirt. Skirts can be A-line or straight but should not be tight fitting, stretchy or "skater" skirts. If belts are worn, they should be narrow and plain black with a small buckle. Logos on belts are unacceptable. ALL SKIRTS MUST BE WORN WITH BLACK TIGHTS.

(f) **Coats and Jackets**

Coats, jackets (other than blazers and pullovers) or other articles of clothing must not be worn over or under school uniform in school time. Coats and jackets may be worn on the way to school but must be removed immediately on entering the school buildings. Sweat shirts, tee-shirts, hoodies and cardigans cannot be regarded as being "jackets" or "coats" and should not be worn in school at all. The same is true of pullovers in non-uniform colours.

No outer garment that bears an image, slogan, logo, initial or forms words that are inappropriate is allowed on the school premises.

(g) **Pullovers**

Pullovers should be plain, royal blue and v-necked. They should not be patterned in any way, should not be in any other colour or shade than royal blue, and should not have any other neck than a v-neck. Cardigans, roll-neck pullovers, crew-neck pullovers, polo-necked pullovers, sweat shirts and tee-shirts are not allowed.

School pullovers are optional. However, no other pullover, sweat shirt, tee-shirt, etc, may be worn in lieu of a school pullover.

(h) **Shoes**

In tutor time (including Assembly) and in all lessons other than those governed by specific requirements e.g. PE, **all students should wear plain black low-heeled shoes with black soles, and where appropriate black laces. No flip-flops, Ugg style boots, or knee/ankle**

boots. In exceptional cases, alternative footwear might be allowed if the foot has been bandaged or plastered and a letter from a doctor can be shown explaining the necessity for such footwear.

(i) **Ties**

All students should wear the school tie during the school day unless permission has been specifically given to remove it. Any student who is not wearing a tie will be asked to purchase one from the Library or borrow one from Student Services as a temporary measure.

(j) **Jewellery**

Only minimal jewellery is allowed; a watch and earrings. **Students may wear one pair of studs in their ear lobes but they must be no bigger than 3-4mm.** Only one stud is allowed in each ear lobe. Body piercing in other parts of the body (e.g. eyebrow, nose) are banned. There may be occasions when the school will give students permission to wear selected charity wrist bands.

Any student who is found to be wearing an item of jewellery will be asked to remove it. The particular item will be confiscated from the student, placed in an envelope marked with the student's name and form and given to Reception for safekeeping in line with the confiscation protocol set out in the Behaviour Policy.

Any refusal to remove inappropriate uniform, jewellery or make up will be followed up using sanctions in the school Behaviour Policy and treated as defiant behaviour.

(k) **Makeup**

Makeup should be discrete.

- Foundation - should be applied lightly and of natural skin tone
- Eyebrows – natural appearance, not painted on, or enhanced
- Eye shadow and eye liner should be minimal and light
- Eye lashes – minimal brown or black mascara, no false eye lashes
- Lipstick should be light in tone
- Nails – no false nails. Nail varnish should be subtle shades

(l) **Hair**

There are no “uniform” regulations regarding length or style of hair. Hair should, however, be tidy, of reasonable appearance and of such length that there is no risk of getting it caught. Students should not wear anything in their hair other than plain hair bands or clips, no large bows or flowers. Students should not have ‘extreme’ cuts, which would include any grade shorter than grade 2, or patterns or logos shaved into their hair. Hair should not be of a colour which could be described as unnatural. In some practical lessons, long hair may have to be tied back for reasons of safety or hygiene.

(m) **Religious Items**

If a religious symbol is worn, it should be small in size, of simple design and worn so it cannot be seen. Specific exceptions to this rule concern religious headwear. Certain items of religious headwear may be worn on school premises and within the school buildings if these are a requirement of the holy book of that religion. The wearer must be a practising member of that religion. The headwear must be plain, not patterned and either white or

black. Girl's headscarves should not have tassels, fringes or be fastened with brightly coloured clips. Clothing must be such that students can be facially identified and, so that the face is not obscured in any way. This is for reasons of school security, to foster a sense of social cohesion and in order to discharge essential communication skills in education.

(n) **Hats, Gloves & Scarves**

Hats and gloves are not part of the school uniform and **SHOULD NOT BE WORN WITHIN THE SCHOOL BUILDINGS AT ANY TIME** (unless for medical reasons).

(o) **School Bags**

All students must carry a large school bag/rucksack that is capable of holding a number of A4 folders and textbooks.

(p) **Additional Information**

Any student not wearing the correct uniform must be sent to Student Services where they will borrow the correct item of uniform.

Any students wishing to borrow a tie will be asked to exchange it for a piece of their property i.e. mobile phone or house keys which will be returned when they return the tie.

Students will be asked to remove items that are not correct uniform unless, of course, their removal would inappropriately expose parts of the body. In such a situation, students may be sent to IE and the parent telephoned by the Head of Year.

On non-uniform days, clothing worn by students should be non-revealing and should not display offensive logos or comments.

For each uniform infringement, the student will receive an SBL. If a student continues to receive uniform SBLs the Head of Year will contact the parent/carer.

SCHOOL UNIFORM LIST

Girls:

- Black school blazer with St James' school logo
- St James school tie
- Plain black trousers which cover the ankles, not turned up and do not trail on the floor (**not** leggings, skinny jeans or any type of skinny trouser, stretch, baggy, flared or bell-bottoms, jeans, chinos, turn ups, canvas or corduroy)
- Girls may wear a black **knee-length skirt** instead of trousers if preferred with no pattern or additional colours visible on the skirt). Skirts can be A-line or straight but not tight fitting, stretchy or 'skater' skirts. **All skirts must be worn with black tights.**
- If belts are worn, they should be narrow and plain black with a small buckle. Logos on belts are unacceptable.
- Plain white shirt with collar and buttons up to the neck (not a polo shirt) and tucked in. Any tee-shirts worn underneath the shirt must be white and not showing.
- Plain black or white socks or plain black tights may be worn.
- Plain black or white headscarf for religious reasons
- Black footwear with no coloured marks or logos (no flip-flops, boots or high heels)

Boys:

- Black school blazer with St James' school logo
- St James school tie
- Plain black trousers which cover the ankles, not turned up and do not trail on the floor (**not** leggings, skinny jeans or any type of skinny trousers, stretch, baggy, flared or bell-bottoms, jeans canvas, turn ups or corduroy and not chino style)
- If belts are worn, they should be narrow and plain black with a small buckle. Logos on belts are unacceptable.
- Plain white shirt with collar and buttons up to the neck and tucking into trousers (not a polo shirt) and tucked in. Any tee-shirts worn underneath the shirt must be white and not showing.
- Plain black socks
- Black footwear with no coloured marks or logos (no flip-flops or boots)

Optional:

Students may also wear a royal blue v-neck jumper which is only available from Thomas Moore, Fore Street, Exeter. Telephone: 01392 255711.

Only minimal jewellery is allowed; a watch and earrings. **Students may wear one pair of studs in their ear lobes but they must be no bigger than 3-4mm.** Only one stud is allowed in each ear lobe. Body piercing in other parts of the body (e.g. eyebrow, nose) are banned. Makeup should be discrete and minimal.

Students should not have 'extreme' haircuts, which would include any grade shorter than grade 2, or patterns or logos shaved into their hair. Hair should not be of a colour which could be described as unnatural.