

St. Ultan's Special School School Uniform Policy

1. Introduction

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St. Ultan's School Uniform Policy supports students to maintain neat and tidy presentation during the school day, while endeavouring to keep uniform costs fair for parents and carers. Our uniform mostly consists of widely available generic brand items, where possible, with options for adding the crest separately, and flexibility with regard to non-uniform items such as footwear, PE gear and outerwear.

2. Aim

The aim of this policy is to clarify what our school uniform consists of and what accessories and creative embellishments are acceptable with regard to the safety and wellbeing of students.

3. Rationale and Values Underpinning the School Uniform

- Identity formation
- Equality
- Good dress code awareness
- Setting standards for career preparation and life outside of school

4. Desired Outcomes of the Policy

- Sense of belonging to our school community
- Increased sense of equality
- Standardisation of the dress code
- Sense of pride in presentation
- Cost effective options for families
- Consideration for health, safety and wellbeing

5. Junior School Uniform



Navy sweatshirt – Available from most department stores

> School Crest – Available from the office for €2.50 and can be sewn onto the sweatshirt





Navy tracksuit bottoms – Available from most department stores

> Plain navy shorts in warm weather – Available from most department stores





Red Polo T-Shirt – Available from most department stores

Footwear:

- Students are encouraged to wear comfortable footwear such as runners as classes are very active during the school day
- Ugg boots and sandals are <u>NOT</u> considered practical or appropriate footwear for school

6. Senior School Uniform



Navy Crested Jumper – Available from Ted Murtagh's shop in Trim Ted Murtagh Haggard Street, Townspark North, Trim, Co. Meath 0469431792

Boys wear grey school trousers, available from most department stores





Girls wear navy school trousers, available from most department stores

Leggings are NOT permitted as part of the school uniform



All students wear a blue shirt - short or long sleeves are both fine.

Available from most department stores.



Footwear:

- Students are encouraged to wear comfortable footwear such as runners as classes are very active during the school day
- Ugg boots and sandals are **NOT** considered practical or appropriate footwear for school

7. Accessories, Creativity and Self-Expression

St. Ultan's School endeavours to promote and support the development of every student's identity and creative expression, however priority must be given to matters regarding health and safety, equality, academic success and overall wellbeing.

The following guidelines are applicable:

<u>Outerwear:</u> Students may wear coats, scarves, gloves and hats of any colour once there are no offensive words or slogans.

<u>PE / Sports Gear:</u> Senior students may wear sports clothes on designated PE days, such as Wellness Wednesday. Sports gear can include tracksuit bottoms, t-shirt, sweatshirt, hoodie and proper sports trainers. Crop tops, leggings, jeans, ugg boots and sandals are <u>NOT</u> considered appropriate attire for school sports activities.

<u>Warm Weather:</u> students are permitted to wear plain navy shorts during spells of warm weather. Shorts must be a least knee-length and must not have slogans or branding.

<u>Jewellery</u> must be kept to a minimum, eg: one small necklace, ring, bracelet once they do not hinder the student's ability to access school activities.

<u>Watches</u> may be worn for time-telling purposes only. Smart watches are <u>NOT</u> permitted in school.

<u>Piercings</u>: small stud earrings can be worn in the ear lobes. Facial/body piercings of any kind (eyebrow, nose, tongue, lip etc) are <u>NOT</u> permitted in school. Students who present to school with facial piercings will be asked to remove them.

<u>Hair:</u> hair should be clean and neatly presented and should not block the student's vision or hinder their ability to participate in school activities. With regard to hair dye, only natural hair colours (blonde, brown, black, red etc) are permitted.

<u>Make-Up</u> for senior students must be kept to a minimum (concealer, light mascara.) Coloured eye shadow and false eye-lashes are <u>NOT</u> permitted. Students may wear neutral coloured nail polish but false nails are <u>NOT</u> permitted. Nails should be kept short, neat and clean at all times, particularly when participating in Home Economics.

8. Roles and Responsibilities

Students and Parents

- Correct uniform is worn at all times
- Good personal hygiene is maintained
- Neat and tidy presentation
- Uniform items are labelled clearly
- Uniform guidelines are followed at all times
- Where a student is prone to toilet accidents, a spare uniform should be left in the class and washed/replaced as necessary

Where spare clothes are provided in the event of an accident, parents will wash and return the clothes to the classroom

School Management and Staff

- Teachers will monitor school uniforms at all times
- Principal / Deputy Principal will conduct uniform checks
- In consultation with the class teacher, school management will use its discretion in supporting students towards complying with the uniform policy
- Minor concerns regarding uniforms will be communicated to parents/guardians by class teachers in the hope of finding and implementing solutions
- More serious, or repeat, infringements will be communicated to parents/guardians by school management and consequences or solutions will be discussed as applicable
- Any families who may be experiencing difficulties with the uniform will be assisted by school management in the strictest confidence

9. Review

This policy will be reviewed if/when there are any changes to the school uniform or the guidelines therein.

10. Ratification and Communication

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management in September 2024.

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Date: 25 - 09 - 24

(Chairperson B.o.M)