

Uniform Policy

OUR SCHOOL PRAYER:

What does the Lord ask of you?

To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God.

Micah 6vs.8

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Statement of intent

In our school, our Christian vision shapes all we do. All members of the school community are committed to upholding the St Michael's Church of England Christian values:


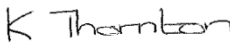
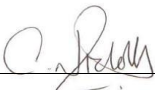
- to show love, care, and kindness to all in our community
- to value what we have and to share with others
- to enable everyone to achieve their full potential

This policy has been created with health and safety, value for money, and practicality at its heart. It has been designed to ensure students wear clothing conducive to a successful learning environment. It is important that our students feel a sense of belonging and community through a smart and practical uniform.

We believe a uniform allows all students, regardless of background, to feel equal to their peers and confident in their appearance. We also believe it is important for activities to be facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing such as sports specific attire.

St Michael's Church of England High School is committed to promoting equality and value for money and ensuring that no student is discriminated against due to their religion or belief, economic circumstances or social and cultural background – this policy contains provisions to meet these objectives.

Signed by:

 _____	Headteacher	Date: <u>21/03/2024</u>
 _____	Co-Chair of Governors	Date: <u>21/03/2024</u>
 _____	Co-Chair of Governors	Date: <u>21/03/2024</u>

Date adopted 8th December 2016
Date reviewed 21st March 2024
Review Date July 2025

1. Introduction

1.1 St Michael's Church of England High School insists on high standards of uniform. It is important that students take pride in their appearance and are aware of the impression their appearance makes within the community. The Headteacher will be the arbiter in all matters relating to uniform, dress, and appearance. Parents/carers and students are advised to consult a member of the Senior Leadership Team if they are considering uniform, dress, or appearance changes that might conflict with the school policy.

2. Sanctions

2.1 Any student who arrives at school out of uniform, in unsuitable uniform, wearing inappropriate jewellery or with an unsuitable hairstyle or hair colour may be removed from lessons and placed into refocus and their parent/carer will be contacted. A record will be made in a student's file. If a student persistently ignores the uniform code, the school will need to employ further sanctions.

3. Aims and Objectives

3.1 Our policy for school uniform is based on the notion that school uniform:

- is practical, smart, and designed with health and safety in mind
- promotes a sense of pride in the school
- engenders a sense of community, shared identity, and belonging towards the school
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and is considered by parents as good value for money

4. The Role of Parents

4.1 We ask all parents who send their children to our school to support the school uniform policy. It is the responsibility of parents to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair.

4.2 Parents should label all items of school uniform, including shoes and trainers. The school cannot accept any responsibility for items of clothing lost in school: parents must instil in children the concept that they are responsible for their personal belongings.

5. The Role of Governors

5.1 It is the governor's responsibility to ensure that the school uniform meets all the regulations concerning equal opportunities.

5.2 The governors will consider, with the Headteacher, any requests from parents for individual children to have a special dispensation, either for religious or medical reasons, with regard to school uniform.

6. Equality

6.1 At St Michael's Church of England High School, equality considerations are central to all that we do. We are committed to promoting equality of opportunity and to preventing all unlawful discrimination whether against individuals or groups on grounds of religion, age, race, gender, gender identity, physical or learning disability. Please see the school's Student Equality, Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Policy for more information.

7. St Michael's Uniform

- White shirt or blouse with shirt collar.
- School tie.
- Plain navy blue V-neck pullover (this is optional and must be worn with the school blazer). No other style or colour of jumper will be accepted.
- Navy blue blazer with school badge.
- Plain black, full-length, straight-legged school trousers that hang from the waist. Boot cut, drainpipe, tight, tapered or turn up style trousers are not permitted. Trousers containing denim or Lycra are not permitted. Adornments, including zips (ornamental or pocket), are not permitted
- Official St Michael's knee-length skirt with school logo. Please note, that this is the only skirt allowed.
- Belts should be black without any adornment, for example, studs, sequins, glitter etc. and should be worn to support trousers rather than as an additional fashion accessory.
- Plain black ankle socks. When wearing a skirt, plain black ankle or knee socks, or 80-100 denier black tights must be worn. Trainer socks are not permitted.
- Appropriate outdoor coat in navy blue, black or grey. Coats must not be worn inside the building.
- All students inside the building are expected to wear their blazer and tie, with their shirt tucked into their trousers.
- Hoodies and sweatshirts are not permitted on the school site.

Please refer to Appendix A for guidance on how to wear uniform appropriately.

7.1 Footwear

- Suitable formal, black, low-heeled shoes should be worn.
- Open-toed, backless shoes, sliders, trainers, pumps, or sneaker-inspired footwear are not permitted.
- Crocs, Vans, Kickers, Converse, Nike Air Force or similar are not permitted.
- Boots are not permitted.
- Stitching, logos, motifs, adornments, or colours are not permitted.

7.1.2 Some high street stores will brand footwear in their 'back to school' range when, in fact, the style of footwear is based upon a trainer. For example, Clarks sell trainer-inspired style footwear, and the following styles are not acceptable:

- Fawn Lay Youth, Kick Step, CICA Older, CICA Youth, Scape Bright, Palmer Mist, Orbit Sprint, and Clowder Sprint (this list is not exhaustive).

Please refer to Appendix B and C for acceptable and unacceptable school shoe exemplars.

7.2 Jewellery

The only permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings, one in each ear lobe – no other facial, body, or tongue piercings are permitted. Rings, zips, chains, wide belts, or ear stretchers are NOT permitted.
- clear plastic retainers are not permitted.
- a smart/sensible wristwatch. Smartwatches, e.g., iWatch or Fitbit, are not permitted to be worn or brought into school.
- a single plain ring may be worn.
- a single plain necklace (e.g., a cross and a chain) may be worn but this must not be on show.
- Bracelets should not be worn unless for religious reasons.
- Jewellery is the responsibility of the student and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded or replaced.

7.3 Make-up

- False nails and nail extensions are not permitted.
- False eyelashes are not permitted.
- Nail varnish is not permitted.
- No make-up is allowed to be worn.
- No pimple patches are allowed to be worn.
- Fake tan is not permitted.
- Students wearing make-up will be required to remove it or, if appropriate, will be sent home to remove it.

7.4 Hairstyles, headgear, and eyebrows

- Hair should be neat and smart.
- Hair should be a single, natural colour, no shorter than a grade 1.
- No extreme styles, including 'tramlines', skin fades, sculpting, shaving, and patterns.
- Hair adornments are not permitted.
- Use of gels or styling products should be minimal.
- Bandanas, durags, or baseball caps are not permitted.
- Hairbands, scrunchies, and toggles must be plain, navy blue, or black only.
- Headscarves should be navy blue or black and conform to the requirements below:
 - the fabric should be lightweight and plain black and the headscarf must be folded under the chin, taken round to the back of the neck and the ends tucked in. This conforms to the health and safety and school requirements
 - The headscarf must be worn so that the collar and tie can be seen clearly. The reason for wearing the headscarf is to preserve modesty. Therefore, it should not be worn with headbands, brooches, shadow stripes, patterns, logos, embellishments, diamantes, tassels or other colours
 - a photographic example of the above criteria for headscarves is available upon request
- Turbans must be plain black or navy blue and unadorned.
- Eyebrows must not be shaved or sculpted to contain an eyebrow slit.

8. PE Kit

8.1 It is a legal requirement that all children participate in PE lessons. Students must have their PE kit in school at all times and are required to change into their PE kit for PE lessons.

8.2 It is optional whether to add initials to the PE kit. This has been added as a choice to help reduce the amount of kit that is lost within school. PE kits for boys and girls are as follows:

- St Michael's navy blue polo shirt with school badge
- St Michael's navy blue shorts
- St Michael's navy blue tracksuit bottoms or plain navy blue tracksuit bottoms
- St Michael's navy blue training top/sweatshirt with school badge
- plain navy blue waterproof/showerproof jacket
- plain black, white, navy blue or grey trainers
- St Michael's navy blue football socks with white trim at the top and St Michael's embroidered
- moulded studded boots and or/astro trainers (not metal studs) and basketball boots can only be worn during the specific sporting activity and should be brought into school in a bag

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when required and that it is labelled with their child's name.

Please note: students will participate in football and hockey on AstroTurf, so moulded, studded boots are recommended.

9. School Equipment

9.1 School bags

- A school bag is compulsory.
- Students must use an appropriately sized, navy blue, black or grey waterproof bag to carry their books and equipment. It should hold A4-sized workbooks comfortably without causing any damage.
- Small cross-body or handbags are not permitted.

9.2 School equipment

The following basic school equipment is compulsory and students must bring this into school every day, for every lesson:

- a pencil case
- a Casio scientific calculator
- a pencil
- a compass
- an eraser
- a sharpener
- a black pen
- a red pen
- a ruler (30 cm)

The following school equipment is advisable:

- a full geometry set
- highlighter
- colour crayons

9.3 Subscriptions

- 5-year subscription to MathsWatch. This is available to purchase from the school via ParentPay at a cost of £2.50.

9.4 Subject-specific equipment

- An apron for Design Technology (this is optional).

9.5 Electronic devices

- St Michael's Church of England High School is a mobile-free zone. Please see the school's Mobile Phone Policy for more information.
- Mobile phones, headphones and earphones are not permitted.
- Handheld gaming consoles, VR headsets and tablets are not permitted.
- The school accepts no responsibility for any loss, theft or damage of a mobile phone, or any other electronic device, as they are considered a banned item, under Section 94 of the Education and Inspections Act 2006.

10. Non-Uniform Days/Off Site Visits

10.1 From time to time there may be non-uniform days, where students and staff may come to school in their everyday clothes for school trips, excursions, extracurricular activities, or fund-raising events. During fundraising events, members of the school community may be asked to contribute a sum of money for the privilege of not wearing uniform. On non-uniform days, the following items of clothing are not permitted:

- high-heeled shoes or open-toe sandals
- strappy tops that expose the shoulders
- cropped tops that expose the midriff
- very short skirts
- jewellery of any kind (except permitted items – see above)
- long skirts that touch the ground
- t-shirts or other garments with inappropriate slogans

11. School Planner

11.1 In preparing for learning, all students must come to school equipped with a bag, pencil, ruler, eraser, and planner. Student planners are one of the first points of communication between home and school and are an aid to every student's organisational development. Parents are asked to check and sign them on a regular basis and not hesitate to raise any issues that may need to be addressed with the appropriate staff.

12. Monitoring and Review

12.1 This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher: Pastoral, Behaviour, Personal Development and Designated Safeguarding Lead (DSL). The policy will be reviewed in consultation with the Pastoral Team and PE department.

Appendix a - Uniform and PE Kit Exemplars



Appendix b – Acceptable formal, black, low-heeled school shoe exemplars



This list is not exhaustive.

Appendix c – Unacceptable black school shoe exemplars



This list is not exhaustive.

Appendix c – Suppliers

St Michael's uniform is available from the following suppliers:

Gogna

Junction 2 Industrial Estate
Unit 1B Demuth Way
Oldbury
B69 4LT
0121 523 5572
<https://www.gogna.me/>

A Oakes Ltd

Oakend House
174-180 Vicarage Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B68 8JB
0121 552 1684