

St Cuthberts School Uniform Policy 2026/27

Aims

All students are expected to always maintain a high standard of personal appearance. This includes wearing the correct school uniform and being ready to learn each day. It is the responsibility of each student to ensure they meet these expectations.

This policy applies:

- On school premises.
- Throughout the school day.
- While travelling to and from school.
- During any school-related activities, including work experience, day trips, and residential visits, when uniform is required.

St Cuthberts RC High School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital for:

- Promoting the ethos of a school.
- Providing a sense of belonging and identity.
- Setting an appropriate tone for education.

Uniform supplier

Regulation items of uniform can be purchased from:

- Monkhouse.
- Moses.
- Ziggys.
- Debonair.

Uniform

- Regulation black St Cuthbert's RC High School blazer to be worn at all times.
- Regulation School tie.
- Plain white school shirt with stiff v-shaped collar which is tucked in (either long or short sleeved).
- Optional plain grey v-neck jumper (worn with not instead of the blazer).
- Pleated grey skirt (see Appendix 1).
- Plain black trousers (see Appendix 1) from the approved list of trousers.
- Black coloured tights. If socks are worn as well as tights, they must be plain black, discreet, and worn in cold weather.
- Plain black shoes (see Appendix 1) with a low heel which are suitable for wearing during the day and to and from school. No canvas, trainers, boots or sandals.

- Plain outdoor coat, no large logos.
- Certain items of jewellery, such as the Kara bangle, and certain items of headwear, such as the turban and headscarves may be worn by pupils when doing so, is genuinely based on manifesting religious or racial beliefs or identity.
- Reasonable adjustments may be required to the uniform for disabled pupils who require them. Parents or carers should contact the school's SENCo to discuss the matter and ensure that appropriate reasonable adjustments are implemented to support the pupil.

PE Uniform

- Red St Cuthbert's T-shirt
- Black St Cuthbert's branded ½ zip long-sleeved top (optional)
- Plain black St Cuthbert's branded shorts.
- St Cuthbert's branded jogging pants.
- St Cuthbert's branded leggings.
- Pumps or suitable trainers (indoor).
- Football boots or suitable trainers (outdoor).

All Students

- "Plain" is defined as being without embellishment i.e. studs, additional zips, braiding, patterned, logos etc.
- Unnatural hair colouring is not permitted; the interpretation of "unnatural" is as follows: A colour that is not found within the natural colour spectrum, i.e. a bright, extreme or vivid colour. A combination of colours that is easily visible or stark in contrast. If hair extensions are worn, they must be in a colour that naturally blends with the hair.
- One small, single stud in each ear is permitted; the stud must be worn in the lower part of the earlobe and should be removed for PE; students wearing studs in their ears other than in their lobes will be expected to remove them.
- Jewellery (except for a watch) is not permitted; however, if there are religious or cultural reasons for wearing an item of jewellery then permission must be sought from the Head of Year. Jewellery is the responsibility of the owner and is worn at the owner's own risk. Other visible body piercings are not permitted, and the student will be expected to remove them. A small clear retainer can be worn for nose piercings.
- Natural, subtle and basic make-up may be worn to cover skin complaints. No visible body art.
- Garments which cover the face or whole body are not permitted.
- Baseball caps, hats or hoods up are not permitted.
- Top garments such as hoodies and fleeces are not permitted.
- Belts if worn must be plain, black, leather or leather-look, buckles must be simple and plain. No branding or logos are allowed.
- Students may not remove their blazer in a lesson without the permission of the member of staff.
- All uniform should be marked in permanent pen with the owner's name.

Uniform Affordability and Support

We are committed to making sure that the cost of school uniform does not prevent any student from applying to the school or lead to feelings of exclusion, or difficulty in affording other essential items.

If parents or carers are unable to provide the required uniform, they are encouraged to contact the Headteacher. These matters will be dealt with discreetly and sensitively.

We review the school's uniform supplier, pricing, and quality each year to ensure that items remain affordable and of good quality. Parents /carers and students are regularly consulted to gather their views and help guide these decisions.

Pre-loved uniform will be available to purchase at certain times of the year.

Application of the uniform policy

Parents and carers are responsible for ensuring their child wears the correct school uniform, in full accordance with the school's policy.

Form tutors will check uniform regularly, and all staff are expected to ensure students are appropriately dressed both in lessons and around the school site.

Students who fail to wear the correct uniform, or who wear it improperly (for example, rolling up blazer sleeves or skirts), may face sanctions in line with the school's behaviour policy.

Persistent breaches of the uniform policy will result in parental contact and may lead to the student being sent home.

Jewellery and other non-uniform accessories must be removed when requested.

The Headteacher has the final say on all matters relating to uniform and appearance.

Non-compliance

The Department for Education's (DfE) non-statutory guidance on school uniform (September 2013) allows schools to discipline pupils for breaching uniform rules, provided actions align with the school's behaviour policy.

A headteacher or authorised person may ask a pupil to go home briefly to remedy the breach. This is not considered an exclusion but should be recorded as an authorised absence. However, if the pupil continues to breach the policy to avoid school or takes longer than necessary to make the change, the absence may be deemed unauthorised. In such cases, the school should follow legal requirements for exclusion if considering further disciplinary action.

Issues arising from the policy

Parents and carers should raise any concerns or questions regarding the school uniform, dress code, or appearance with the Headteacher. Requests to alter uniform requirements—such as for medical or other specific reasons—will be considered carefully and sensitively.

Students should address any uniform-related issues with their Form Tutor or Head of Year. They may also suggest changes or raise matters through the Year or School Council.

In the event of extreme weather, the Headteacher may temporarily adjust uniform expectations to ensure the comfort and wellbeing of students, communication will be made via the Arbor App.

Appendix 1

Only trousers that meet the requirements of the Uniform Policy may be worn. To assist with purchasing, the approved styles are outlined below. If you opt not to purchase the trousers specified, any alternative trousers must be identical in style and material to those approved.

Trousers must be black, full-length, and tailored. Acceptable fits include straight, slim, or boot-cut, and they must fasten with a zip and/or button.

The following styles are **not** permitted:

- Jeans, cargo style, leggings or jeggings. Trousers should be suit material, not canvas.
- Styles with large back pockets, studs or rivets.
- Skinny fit (must be space between the trouser leg and ankle).
- Flares
- Turn-ups at the bottom of the trouser legs.
- Fully elasticated waists.
- Material with a high shine or sheen.
- Cropped



Slim fit acceptable



Regular leg acceptable



Boot cut acceptable



Skinny stretch Trousers
Not acceptable



Skinny stretch flare trousers
Not acceptable

Skirts-

Skirt fit must sit on the knee.

Please note anything above the knee is not part of the accepted uniform.

Skirts must not be rolled up at the waist.

Skirts are available from the school's approved supplier.

If you do not wish to purchase a skirt from the approved supplier, any alternative skirt must be pleated and grey in colour.

Approved skirt



Grey stitched down pleated skirt stocked at our recommended suppliers, or clothing stores/supermarkets.



Fitted school skirt
Not accepted



Pencil skirt
Not accepted



Tube skirt
Not accepted

Shoes

The uniform policy requires pupils to wear **plain black leather looking shoes**. Canvas shoes, trainers, boots, or sandals are not permitted under any circumstances.

We recognise that there are various alternatives which may appear acceptable to different individuals. To avoid confusion and ensure consistency, examples of what is considered acceptable and not acceptable are provided below.



Not acceptable

