



## Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School

Curbridge Road, Witney, Oxfordshire OX28 5JZ  
01993 702480  
office@lolwit.org.uk

Principal: Mr D O'Connor



THE ARCHDIOCESE  
of BIRMINGHAM

### School Uniform Policy

*We believe each person is a unique creation made in the image and likeness of God, called by name with a special vocation and gifts to bring to the world. We seek to develop these talents in each individual by being a beacon of Catholic education in Oxfordshire.*

#### Introduction and background to policy

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Primary School believes that a consistent school uniform policy is vital to promote the ethos of the school and provide a sense of belonging and identity for all pupils, regardless of their protected characteristics or socio-economic circumstances.

This policy lays out the measures the school has taken to ensure a consistent, fair and inclusive uniform policy, and to implement a uniform that reflects the needs of all pupils, and is affordable and the best value for money for the school and pupils' families.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, able to be themselves, and dressed in such a way that sets an appropriate tone for education.

Parents and carers are expected to co-operate fully by providing the uniform and ensuring children wear it correctly at all times.

#### Cost principles

The school is committed to ensuring that its school uniform is affordable and accessible to all pupils, and does not place an unreasonable financial burden on parents.

In accordance with the 'School Admissions Code', the Principal will ensure that the school's uniform policy does not discourage parents from applying for a place for their child.

The school will assess the overall cost implications of its uniform policy regularly, including prior to making any changes to the school uniform.

The school will evaluate the cost of its uniform based on the overall collection of uniform items that parents would need to purchase for a pupil, rather than on the cost effectiveness of individual items; this will include consideration of the fact that parents will need to purchase multiples of certain items, e.g. shirts and socks, to ensure their child can come to school in clean uniform every day.

The school keeps branded uniform items to a minimal level that is reasonable for all members of the school community. The school defines a branded uniform item as any item of clothing that cannot be purchased at a range of retailers, including by virtue of logos, colours, design and fabrics. Where the school decides to require an item of branded clothing, it will conduct an assessment to ensure prices are kept as low as possible, e.g. by offering sew- or iron-on logo badges for jumpers that can be bought at retailers instead of requiring special branded jumpers.

The school is committed to meeting the DfE's recommendations on costs and value for money. Every care is taken to ensure that our uniforms are affordable for all current and prospective pupils, and that the best value for money is secured through reputable suppliers.

The school obtains quotes from multiple suppliers to obtain the best value for money possible. Any savings negotiated are passed to parents where possible and does not enter into exclusive single supplier contracts or cash-back arrangements.

The school will not amend uniform requirements regularly and will take the views of parents and pupils into account when considering any changes to school uniforms.

### **Equality Principles**

The school takes its legal obligation to avoid discriminating against any protected characteristic unlawfully very seriously, and aims to ensure that the uniform policy is as inclusive as possible so that all pupils are supported to access a school uniform which is comfortable, suitable for their needs, and reflects who they are.

The school will work to ensure that the cost of school uniform does not disproportionately affect any pupils by ensuring that uniforms for all genders are as equal in price as possible and by adhering to the cost principles laid out below.

The school ensures that pupils who are required to follow certain dress requirements, e.g. by virtue of their membership of a particular religious or cultural group, are afforded flexibility to allow them to wear a uniform that adheres to their requirements as far as possible. The school endeavours to meet all requests for amendments to the uniform for these purposes; however, will ensure that the needs and rights of individual pupils are weighed against any health and safety concerns for the entire school community.

The school ensures that the needs of pupils with SEND and/or sensory difficulties are considered in the uniform policy, e.g. ensuring soft, stretchy fabrics and avoiding intricate buttons or hard seams; however, where the needs of these pupils cannot be met in the standard uniform policy, individual adaptations to the uniform will be considered and permitted wherever possible.

### **School Uniform**

#### *Boys*

Charcoal grey trousers  
White long or short sleeved shirt or polo shirt  
Blue jumper with logo  
Grey socks  
Black shoes (Velcro for younger children)  
Named water bottle

Summer uniform from the start of the summer term to the end of October, children can wear:

As above and/or  
Charcoal grey shorts  
Grey or white socks

#### *Girls*

Charcoal grey skirt, pinafore dress or trousers  
White long or short sleeved shirt or polo shirt  
Blue jumper or cardigan with logo  
Grey or white socks or grey tights  
Black shoes (Velcro for younger children)  
Named water bottle

Summer uniform from the start of the summer term to the end of October, children can wear:

As above and/or  
Charcoal grey shorts  
Light blue checked summer dress  
Grey or white socks

### *PE Kits*

Team coloured t-shirt (which should be bought from the School Office)

Plain royal blue shorts

Trainers

Plain black / blue jumper

Plain black / blue jogging bottoms

Parents are responsible for ensuring their child brings their PE kit to school when needed.

### **Outerwear**

In winter, children need a warm waterproof school coat.

In summer an anorak, cagoule or similar should be brought to school when the weather is unsettled.

### **Footwear**

Shoes should be suitable for school wear, enabling your child to play safely at playtimes. Children must not wear trainers or boots in school.

### **Jewellery**

Permitted jewellery that may be worn is:

- One pair of stud earrings – no other piercings are permitted.
- A smart and sensible wrist watch.

Jewellery is the responsibility of the pupil and not the school. Lost or damaged items will not be refunded. All jewellery must be removed during practical lessons, including PE and swimming lessons.

### **Hairstyles**

The school reserves the right to make a judgement on where pupils' hairstyles or hair colours are inappropriate for the school environment; however, we will ensure that any such judgements do not discriminate against any pupil by virtue of their protected characteristics. Each individual pupil's circumstances will be taken into account where any judgements on appropriateness are to be made, and parents will always have the freedom to complain via the school's Complaints Procedures Policy.

Pupils with long hair must ensure that this does not impede their vision, cover their face or provide a health and safety risk. Long hair must be tied up during practical lessons, e.g. during PE.

The following hairstyles are not considered appropriate for school:

- Brightly-coloured, dyed hair.
- Headwear with bold patterns or colours.
- Excessive hair accessories.

### **Makeup**

Children are not permitted to wear

- Makeup
- False nails and nail extensions
- Nail varnish
- Temporary tattoos

### **Labelling**

All pupils' clothing and footwear should be clearly labelled with their name.

Any lost clothing is to be taken to the lost property box outside the Year 6 classroom.

**Monitoring and review**

Dated: May 2022

To be Reviewed: May 2024, or earlier if required