



Uniform Policy for St. Colman's N.S. Mullingar

Introduction

This policy has been prepared in consultation with our Parents Association, Student Council, staff and Board of Management.

This policy supports children attending St. Colman's N.S to be well-presented at all times while also ensuring uniform costs are kept to a minimum for parents. Our school uniform policy reflects initiatives by the Department of Education and Skills (DES) to promote affordability for parents regarding school uniforms.

Rationale

- A school uniform is about equality – all pupils at St. Colman's N.S are valued and treated equally.
- A school uniform supports positive behaviour and helps create a school identity.
- A school uniform reflects a sense of belonging to a school community.
- A school uniform reinforces a pride of appearance among the pupils in the school.
- The wearing of a school uniform indicates acceptance of shared goals and support for the values St. Colman's N.S. seeks to achieve.
- Parents find school uniforms quite economical. Our uniform is designed so that parents can avail of affordable, generic items such as polo shirts, jumpers and tracksuit bottoms.
- A school uniform removes the peer pressure to wear designer labels and other expensive clothing and removes the pressure to keep up with fashion trends.

School Uniform

To help children to take responsibility for their belongings, we ask parents to label their child's uniform items with his/her first and last name. (School tracksuit tops can be embroidered to include a family name or initials at an extra charge when being purchased from KC Sports)

School Uniform

Girls

- Grey trousers, skirt or pinafore
- White shirt or polo shirt

- Green jumper or cardigan
- Green tie (optional)

Boys

- Grey trousers
- White shirt or polo shirt
- Green jumper or cardigan
- Green Tie (optional)

*All of these items are generic and can be purchased from a variety of local outlets.

P.E. Uniform

Girls & Boys

- Plain **navy** tracksuit bottoms (no leggings or track suit bottoms with logos or stripes).
- White polo shirt.
- School quarter zip.
- 6th class pupils may wear their bespoke 6th class hoodie or the school tracksuit top for PE days.

*Only one item of our uniform is crested and this is our school tracksuit top. This is available online from KC Sports, Mullingar at www.kcsports.ie

Seasonal Variations

- Pupils may wear plain navy shorts in warm weather. Please note that any shorts worn should be **appropriate for a primary school** i.e. be of a loose fit and be an appropriate length (no higher than mid-thigh).
- GAA or soccer shorts are not to be worn.

Formal Occasions

All children must have a full school uniform for formal occasions. These are occasions such as First Confession and Confirmation or occasions where a pupil is representing the school.

Footwear

- Footwear for all students should be as waterproof as possible.
- Children in the Junior classes are encouraged to wear Velcro shoes until they are able to tie their own laces.
- Shoes with heels are not allowed
- Appropriate sports footwear must be worn on P.E. days.

Hair/Jewellery and Make Up

- All students are expected to keep their hair in a neat and clean condition.

- Long hair must be tied back to minimise outbreaks of head lice within classrooms.
- No make-up or fake tan is allowed at school.
- No acrylic/gel/shellac or false nails are allowed.
- Jewellery should not be worn as it may pose a health and safety risk. If a child has their ears pierced small stud earrings are the only jewellery permitted.

Dress and Appearance – Implementation and Sanctions

- Staff will routinely check uniforms.
- Pupils are expected to keep their uniform clean and tidy.
- Pupils are expected to wear their full school uniform every day unless on their specified P.E. days.
- Students will be asked to remove make-up , nail varnish or inappropriate jewellery.
- Hats or hoods will not be worn inside.
- If the uniform policy is not adhered to, an explanatory note will be required. In the absence of a satisfactory note of explanation and depending on the circumstances, students may be given items of uniform to wear for the day.
- In the event of a continual failure to adhere to the school's uniform policy a meeting shall be held with the pupil's parent/guardian.

Review and Implementation

This policy will be reviewed periodically (or in line with a change in DES legislation) and amended if/as necessary. It was most recently reviewed in March 2024 and implemented once ratified by the Board of Management.

Ratification and Communication

The Board of Management of St. Colman's N.S. has reviewed and ratified this policy on 20th March 2024 and is available to all members of the school community.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Management:

Chairperson: Mary Hughes.

Date: 20/03/2024.