# Uniform Policy

Committee Responsible – LGC
Last review: Summer 2026
Next Review: Spring 2029

## 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

• Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
• Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
• Clarify our expectations for school uniform

## 2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

• Ensure there is a gender-neutral uniform, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
• Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils.
• Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back).
• Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable.
• Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
• Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Sam Crome, Deputy Head (scrome@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk) who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

## 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

• Is available at a reasonable cost
• Provides the best possible value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

• Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
• Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible. For example, by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the school logo.
• Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
• Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as bags.
• Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller.
• Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
• Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.
• Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as school provided bibs or banners.
• Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items.
• Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.

• Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.

**4. Expectations for school uniform**

**4.1 Our school's uniform**

Full details of our school uniform requirements can be found here on the school website.

**4.2 Where to purchase it**

Full details of where to purchase our school uniform can be found here on the school website.

The PTA arranges a second-hand uniform sale periodically throughout the year. Details will be sent to all parents in advance and in a timely manner.

We offer all incoming new Year 7 pupils who are in receipt of free school meals in Year 6 with a £50 voucher towards the cost of a new uniform in the June/July before they start school. Any pupils entitled to free school meals joining us mid-year are offered the same. In exceptional circumstances we may provide economically disadvantaged pupils with support in purchasing compulsory elements of their school uniform, this includes those in the Sixth Form.

**5. Expectations for our school community**

**5.1 Pupils**

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

• On the school premises
• Travelling to and from school
• At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required) Pupils are also expected to contact Mr Crome (scrome@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

**5.2 Parents and carers**

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

• Clean
• Clearly labelled with the child's name
• In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Mr Crome (scrome@st-peters.surrey.sch.uk) if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

• Their child's protected characteristics
• The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

• Resolved locally

• Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy.

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

**5.3 Staff**

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. Pupils will be given a uniform caution if their uniform is incorrect in accordance with our behaviour policy. This may be followed up by a member of the pastoral team.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by the pupil's Head of Year.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

**5.4 Governors**

The Local Governing Committee (LGC) will review this policy and make sure that it:

• Is appropriate for our school's context
• Is implemented fairly across the school
• Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
• Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The LGC will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

**6. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the Deputy Head i/c Pastoral Care. At every review, it will be approved by the LGC.