

SACRED HEART HIGH SCHOOL



SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY FEBRUARY 2023

To be reviewed February 2024

*This Policy should be read in conjunction with
all other Sacred Heart High School Policies*

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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 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:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, 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
- Regularly review the policy and make changes when appropriate.

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 value for money for parents/carers by regularly shopping around suppliers and switching suppliers when possible and advantageous in terms of cost, taking into account contractual obligations.

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.

- Considering cheaper alternatives to school-branded items, such as logos that can be ironed on, as long as this doesn't compromise quality and durability
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as bags and shoes (other than to insist that these are themselves unbranded).
- 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 using lanyards or badges.
- 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

Uniform should be worn at all times, including to and from school. All items should be marked with the pupil's name.

Hair should be traditionally styled. Extremes of fashion e.g. shaved hair, beads, unnatural tints, dyes and highlights are not acceptable.

Nose and eyebrow piercings or cuts are not allowed.

Some minimal jewellery (as referred to below) is allowed but no other jewellery items are allowed.

False lashes, nail polish & nail extensions are not allowed.

4.1 Year 7-11 Required Uniform

Clothing Item	Description/Comment	Supplier Required
Blazer	Navy blue blazer with school crest from Sogans. The Head will make a decision during the summer term when girls do not need blazers during exceptionally hot weather. No other outdoor wear may be substituted.	Sogans
Blouse	Light blue short-sleeve reverse collar blouse	Any
Pullover	Navy blue V-neck pullover	Any
Skirt or Trousers	Tartan. Skirt length must be on or below the knee.	Sogans
Shoes	Dark Blue or black smart shoes. Plimsolls or trainers, (except for Games) are not acceptable and may not be worn without the full PE kit. Shoes should be	Any

Clothing Item	Description/Comment	Supplier Required
	low-heeled and black and should preferably have rubber soles. Ankle boots are not allowed.	
Socks/Tights	Navy, black, white ankle or knee length socks and plain navy, black or neutral tights. No 'trainer socks'.	Any
PE Polo shirt	Navy blue with crest for PE	Sogans
PE sweatshirt	Navy blue with crest for PE	Sogans
PE Skort or leggings	Navy blue skort with school crest or	Sogans
	Navy or black sports leggings or jogging bottoms.	Any
PE ankle socks	Any sort of white or black sports (or other) plain ankle socks	Any
PE Trainers	Any sort of sports trainers (they do not have to be white)	Any

4.2 Year 7-11 Optional Extras

Clothing Item	Description/Comment	Supplier Required
Outer coat	This is only required to be worn during periods of cold weather and is then to be worn to and from school and to be available to be worn by the student when outside at break. The coat is not to be worn inside. It may be purchased from anywhere and should be a plain navy blue or black coat or jacket.	Any
Scarf	There is a specific Sacred Heart scarf available from Sogans but students can also wear any plain navy or black scarf	Any
Gloves	Plain navy or black	Any
Backpack	Black with school logo from Sogans or plain navy or black with no branding from any supplier. Bags should be big enough to carry your exercise-books, lunch and other items for your day.	Any
Sacred Heart PE bag	With crest	Sogans
Hair Accessories	Navy, plain	Any
Jewellery	Easily removeable plain gold/silver stud earrings in ear lobe are permitted - no multiple piercings in ear and no piercings allowed in nose or, eyebrow.	Any

	A simple small cross and chain is also permitted but no other jewellery including rings or bracelets is allowed.	
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Note 1: All jewellery must be removed for physical activity. The rules for PE are based on advice from the Health and Safety Executive and Physical Education Association. As a matter of basic safety, students are required to remove their earrings and all other jewellery items such as watches, necklaces etc. for the duration of the PE lesson. To ensure that no injuries occur, all pupils must adhere to this ruling. Due to the physical nature of the subject, earrings in particular are a major concern as they can be easily caught on equipment or other students, and can cause injury and bleeding to the student wearing them or their peers.

We do not allow pupils to use tape to cover up earrings, as mentioned above all jewellery must be removed for every PE lesson.

The school always puts student safety above other considerations. It is therefore essential that if students wear stud earrings to school, they are of a type that they can easily removed. The school cannot be responsible for lost jewellery. If you are unsure about any aspect of this please speak to your Head of Year.

Note 2: If a member of staff feels what you are wearing is inappropriate they will ask you to address the issue. This may include you going home to get changed.

4.3 Sixth Form Required Uniform

Sixth Formers are recognised as leaders within our school community and set an example for younger students. They recognise their status and responsibility and support and enhance our ethos through their appearance. While we recognise individuality within our Sixth Form students, we have adopted a dress code applicable to all.

Clothing Item	Description/Comment	Supplier Required
Blazer	Black crested blazer with pale blue stripes. The Head will make a decision during the summer term when girls do not need blazers during exceptionally hot weather. No other outdoor wear may be substituted.	Sogans
Blouse	White short sleeved revere collar blouse.	Any
Pullover	Black V-neck pullover (not a sweatshirt)	Any
Skirt or Trousers	Black A-Line skirt. Skirt length must be on or below the knee. Not pleated, not a tube skirt. It must be made of woven material not stretchy/elastic material. Black trousers, straight cut to ankle length (woven material, not stretchy or jeans)	Any
Shoes	Dark Blue or black smart shoes. Plimsolls or trainers, except for Games are not acceptable and may not be worn without the full PE kit. Shoes should be low-heeled and black and should preferably have rubber soles. Ankle boots are not allowed.	Any
Socks/Tights	Black, white ankle or knee length socks and plain black or neutral tights. No 'trainer socks'.	Any

Bag	Bags should be big enough to carry your text books, A4 and lever-arch folders. A handbag will not be suitable. Bags with overt lettering such as 'Just do it', or promoting brand names or shops are not allowed.	Any
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4.4 Sixth Form Optional Extras

Clothing Item	Description/Comment	Supplier Required
Outer coat	This is only required to be worn during periods of cold weather and is then to be worn to and from school and to be available to be worn by the student when outside at break. The coat is not to be worn inside. It should be a plain navy blue or black coat or jacket.	Any, including Sogans
Scarf	There is a specific Sacred Heart scarf available from Sogans but students can also wear and plain navy or black scarf	Any
Gloves	Plain Navy or black	Any
Hair Accessories	Navy or black, plain	Any
Jewellery/ Make up/Hair	A simple necklace such as a cross and chain, and one pair of discreet stud, or hoop earrings (e.g. silver/ gold/ crystal/ pearl) conventionally placed, may be worn. Piercings elsewhere are not permitted, including nose piercings. A plain inexpensive watch can also be worn, as well as 1 ring and 1 bracelet (both to be discreet). All jewellery must be removed for physical activity on Health and Safety grounds. The school cannot be responsible for lost jewellery. Make-up should be discreet and reflect the tone of 'business dress'. Any student who fails to meet this requirement will be told to remove all make-up and must give a donation of 50p to charity. Nails must be of appropriate length and polish, if worn, should be light in colour, not dark or bright. Hair styles should be appropriate for school, and should reflect the tone of 'business dress'. Colour and style should be appropriate for young adults and not extreme, bright colours are not permitted.	Any

If a member of staff feels that what a sixth former is wearing is inappropriate, they will ask the student to address the issue. This may include you going home to get changed.

4.5 Where to purchase the uniform new

As shown in the tables above, some aspects of the uniform can be purchase where you like, e.g. high street and online retailers.

Some elements of the uniform must be purchased from Sogans:

In store or [online here](#).

Sogans - 6 Greyhound Road, Hammersmith, London, W6 8NX
Tel - 020 7385 1055
Email - sogans@theschoolwearspecialists.co.uk
Opening Hours
Monday – Saturday 9:30am to 5:30pm

4.6 Second Hand Uniform Sales

Spare uniform that you no longer need can be handed back to school at Parent Teacher Meetings, where crates will be available for this.

Arrangements for second hand uniform sales are being trialled and may vary across the year. Parents will be kept informed. For the time being if you have any further queries about uniform, please email:

AdminTeam@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk

We understand that home local authorities offer a £150 school uniform grant for families on low incomes. [Find out how to apply for a free £150 School Uniform Grant \(familiesonline.co.uk\)](#)

5 EXPECTATIONS FOR OUR SCHOOL COMMUNITY

5.1 Students

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)

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

Any concerns relating to the school uniform should be sent to admin@sacredh.lbhf.sch.uk. Any disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be resolved locally and 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 students to make sure they are in correct uniform.

The wearing non-uniform items is categorised as a level 1 Behaviour in the school's behaviour policy. If the behaviour is repeated after two warnings this generates a 'behaviour Point' for which sanctions are specified (initially detention).

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 governing board 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 board 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 two years by at the Staffing Management & Finance Committee.

7 LINKS TO OTHER POLICIES

This policy is linked to our:

- Behaviour policy
- Equality information and objectives statement
- Anti-bullying policy
- Complaints policy

8 RATIFICATION

This policy has been approved by the Headteacher and Staffing, Management & Finance Committee in March 2023. The Policy will be reviewed in February 2024.



Mrs S O'Donovan
Headteacher



Lorraine Lawson
Chair of Staffing, Management & Finance Committee