

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND HIGH SCHOOL – UNIFORM POLICY – SEPTEMBER 2024



Why do our students wear a uniform?

At St. Michael's we believe that uniform promotes a sense of pride and belonging in our school, as well as promoting a 'dressed for business' approach to prepare students for the world of work.

Our uniform is practical, safe and smart; It helps us and others to identify our students in the school and in the wider community.

Wearing a set uniform also prevents students from coming to the school in fashion or 'designer' label clothes that could be distracting in class or create a sense of competition. Having the same uniform creates a culture of equality and inclusion, and reduces the pressure that students may put on their parents/carers to purchase expensive branded clothing and accessories.

We have worked hard to ensure that our uniform is good value for money.

Developing responsibility, organisation, and a sense of pride in our community are essential if our students are to flourish spiritually, academically and personally during their time at school, and beyond.

How do we apply our student dress code?

For our student dress code to be successful, it must be implemented universally and without exception.

Our parents understand this and support us to uphold our high standards.

In line with our Christian ethos, we believe that we should 'do all things with love'. As such, we will always work hard to ensure that our students have every opportunity to successfully wear our school uniform. We will support any families that are struggling financially, and will provide a range of convenient opportunities for students/parents/carers to purchase uniform throughout the year.

All of our uniform, except for the sew-on school badge, school tie, and PE polo shirt, can be purchased from supermarkets and online shops.

If a student arrives at school without the correct uniform, they will be given 2 options:

- Borrow an item of uniform temporarily from our spare uniform cupboard. The item will need to be returned at the end of the school day. De-merit points will be awarded.
- A pastoral colleague will phone a parent/carer to ask for the correct uniform to be brought into school as soon as possible. The student will be kept out of lessons until they are in full correct uniform. De-merit points will be awarded.

If a student refuses to wear the correct uniform after these options have been offered, they will be kept out of circulation and given a detention in line with the behaviour policy.

If a student comes to school with inappropriate makeup, hair, or nails, they will be supported to correct the error (e.g. makeup wipes, nail polish remover). If the issue is not easily resolvable, we will contact home to ask for your support, and the student will be kept out of lessons until the issue can be resolved (this includes removal of false eyelashes and nail polish).

We have high expectations of how our students present themselves during their time at school (including on their way to and from the school each day). We will not lower our expectations, but where necessary, we will put in place additional support to help an individual student to meet our expectations.

Students should recognise that conflict over our uniform requirements is inappropriate. Any student that responds argumentatively or rudely when asked to correct their uniform will be given an opportunity to apologize, and correct their behaviour. If the student does not do so, this will be dealt with in line with the behaviour policy.

It is essential that all items of uniform and P.E. kit are labelled so that they can be easily returned if handed in to lost property.

Items such as expensive shoes, coats, watches, phones and jewellery are brought to school at the student's own risk – the school is not responsible for lost or stolen items, however we will make reasonable efforts to protect students' property, and retrieve if it is lost/stolen.

If you have any questions about the information in our student dress code policy, please contact us. If you're unsure whether an item (e.g. school shoes or watch) is appropriate, we are happy to help you with these decisions.

What is our student dress code?

Basic Uniform

Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
School Blazer - Can be purchased from a supermarket (must be plain black with no embellishments) and a St. Michael's badge must be sewn/ironed on. - Can also be purchased from one of our suppliers with the badge already attached.		
Black V-Neck Jumper (optional) - Plain black v-neck jumper. - No sweatshirts. - No logos, coloured piping, pockets or other embellishments.		

Love

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Peace

Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
White shirt - Must be plain white with no logos or other embellishments. - Can be short or long sleeved. - Must have a collar. - Must be worn with top button fastened. - Must be tucked in.		
School Tie - Students will wear a house tie which is a distinct colour depending on their house. - Ties must be worn with the cross showing.		
Black trousers - Must be full-length. - Jeans, linen, leggings, stretchy material, and embellished designs (including zippers, studs or logos) are not permitted. - Should be straight leg style, not flared, skinny or slim design.		

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Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Black skirt or skort - Must be knee length. - Must be plain black, with no embellished designs (including zippers, studs or logos). - Should be A-line or pleated. - No jersey, stretchy or other similar types of material.		
Black pinafore - Must be knee length. - Must be plain black, with no embellished designs (including zippers, studs or logos). - Should be A-line or pleated. - No jersey, stretchy or other similar types of material.		
Black socks - Either plain black ankle socks or plain black below the knee socks (not over the knee). - No logos, patterns, bows or other embellishments.		
Black/Dark Grey tights - Plain black with no patterns or other designs. - At least 40 denier.		

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Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Black shoes - Plain black polishable shoes. - No trainers, boots, suede, sandals, canvas or other types of black shoes. - Flat soles - no heels of any type. *We recognise that the marketing used by some brands such as Kickers can be confusing, so we have put together a list of the acceptable and unacceptable styles below to help parents/carers when purchasing shoes: Acceptable Kickers: - Kick T-Bar - Lachley Brogue - Reasan Strap - Kick Hi Vegan - T Patl - Kelland Lace - Kori Kilty Where a child has a medically diagnosed condition that might require them to wear an appropriate plain black alternative such as a soft leather shoe (On-Clouds and other similar trainers are not appropriate), this will be written into their Pupil Passport by the SEND team, and the student will be issued with a pass to keep on them in their blazer pocket or pencil case. Students will not be issued a pass unless it is written in their Pupil Passport. If you are not sure about which shoes are/aren't acceptable, please contact student services before purchasing them.		

PE Uniform

Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Black Polo Shirt - A black polo shirt with gold piping available from our named suppliers. - School PE tops are also available via the school shop.		 
Black Shorts - Either plain black sport shorts or Lycra shorts - No logos, other colours, or embellishments.	 	  
Black Base Layers (Optional) - Must be plain black with no logos or embellishments. - Should be sports style and suitable for physical exercise. - Black sports leggings and a black long sleeve top would be appropriate for colder weather. - These should be worn <u>under</u> the school PE top and plain black sports shorts.	 	  
Black Socks - Should be ankle or trainer style. - No visible logos, patterns or other colours.		

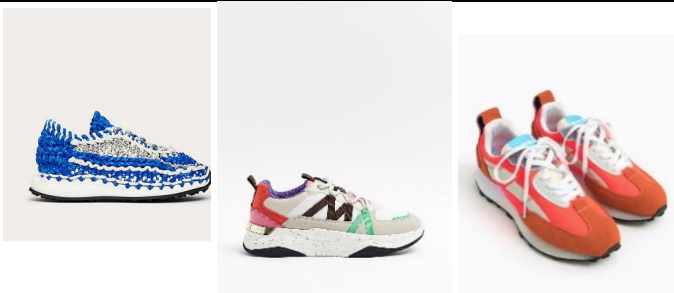
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Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Trainers - Trainers for PE should be suitable for physical exercise, not fashion trainers with hard flat soles. - Should be plain black with black or white soles. - Laces should be plain black.		
St. Michael's PE Jumper (Optional) - Can be purchased via one of our suppliers, or from the school shop. - This is an optional item. - No hoodies or other items can be worn in its place.		

School Bag

Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
St. Michael's School Bag - Year 7s can have a St. Michael's backpack which can be ordered via ParentPay – this is optional. - Please write the student's name on the inside of the bag. - Students in other year group must bring a plain black backpack or satchel. The bag should be big enough to fit an A4 folder in. There should be no logos or other embellishments.		

Hair, Makeup, Nails

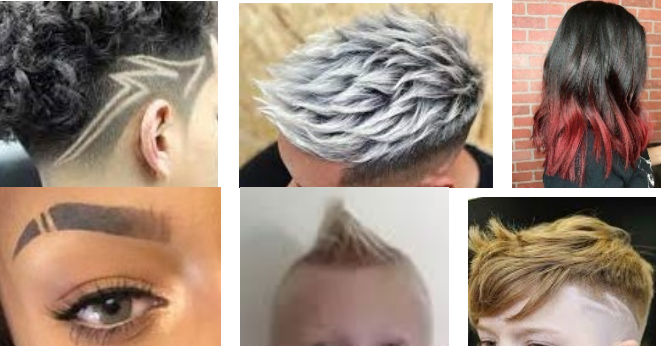
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Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Hair - Hair should be kept neat and tidy. - Hair must be appropriate to a place of work, i.e. no unusual styles or colours, shavings or patterns. - Hair must have no 'fashion' styles (such as 'lines', patterns or 'cat scratches'). It must be styled professionally. - Hair must be of a natural colour. - Eyebrows should be natural with no modifications or shavings (such as 'slits'). - The senior leadership team at the school shall make the final decision on whether a hairstyle is 'neat, tidy and appropriate for a place of work'. - Hair accessories must be small, simple and plain black without any embellishments. - Hairbrushes must not be seen on corridors, in common areas (e.g. canteen/library), or in classrooms.		 
Nails - No false nails, gels, coloured polish (including French tips), or acrylic nails are permitted.		

Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
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Makeup - Very subtle makeup (e.g. concealer) is permitted. - No mascara, lip gloss, coloured lip balm, lipstick, eyebrow pencils, contouring, eyeshadow, eyeliner or other makeup is permitted. - Eyebrows should be natural. - False lashes or other unnatural additions are not permitted. - If a member of staff is able to tell that a student is wearing makeup, it is not subtle, and should be removed.		
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Accessories

Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Coats - Sensible waterproof coats may be worn over the blazer during adverse weather. - Hoodies, leather jackets, denim jackets and other fashion items should not be worn over the uniform. - Coats must be removed as a student enters the building.		

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Item	Acceptable examples	Unacceptable examples
Scarves, hats, gloves - During colder weather students can wear scarves, hats and gloves on their way to school. - These should be removed and put into the student's backpack/satchel on their way into the building. - Baseball caps, and other fashion hats are not permitted in school at all.		
Jewellery - Students may wear 1 pair of plain stud earrings. - Students are permitted to wear a simple functional watch if they want to. - No other piercings are permitted. - Necklaces, bracelets and anklets are not permitted. - No other types of earrings are permitted. - Smart watches are not permitted as they can be a distraction during lessons.	 	 

Phones

- Students are permitted to bring a mobile phone to school, however it must be switched off and not visible from the moment that students arrive on-site, to the point where they leave site at the end of the day.
- Headphones must not be seen throughout the school day, unless specifically directed by a teacher in order to listen to a computer or tablet.
- Our behaviour policy outlines how situations will be dealt with if our expectations around mobile phones and electronic devices are not met.

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Equipment

So that our students can get started with their learning quickly each lesson, and so that our students develop good habits which will prepare them for the world of work, we ask that all students bring the following equipment to each lesson:

- A clear pencil case
- At least one black ballpoint pen
- At least one red ballpoint pen
- At least one pencil
- Highlighter
- 15cm (or 30cm) ruler
- Scientific calculator (FX-83/85GTX)
- Whiteboard pen
- Whiteboard
- Planner
- Water bottle
- Age-appropriate reading book

All of this equipment is available to be purchased from the school shop each morning before school. Equipment packs will also be available for pre-purchase via ParentPay. These packs will be available for collection the next day (during term time).

If a student arrives at school or at a lesson without the correct equipment, they will be given a 30-minute detention the same day (and de-merit points) - both will be logged on ClassCharts.