

St Katherine's School



School Uniform and Equipment Policy

Next Review: September 2026

Signed : Justin Humphreys
Headteacher

Dated : September 2025

Signed: William Harding
Chair of Governors

Dated : September 2025



St Katherine's School Policy

St Katherine's School uniform is smart, suitable, comfortable, affordable, practical and purposeful, ensuring that all pupils are able to learn and work in an environment that promotes high expectations and reflects pride in the school.

1.1 Aims

1.2 Through our uniform policy we aim to:

- set high standards of appearance;
- promote a sense of pride in our school;
- engender a feeling of community and belonging;
- enable pupils to feel smart, comfortable and equal;
- support teaching and learning;
- provide an efficient, good quality and value for money dress code;
- avoid extremes of fashion;
- ensure the health and safety of pupils;
- prepare pupils for a variety of working environments and life in the adult world.

1.3 The school uniform policy is fair and reasonable and fulfils the school's obligations under the Human Rights Act 1998 and the Equality Act 2010.

1.4 A smart uniform will promote the "ready to learn" ethic expected of all pupils at St Katherine's.

2.0 The Role of Parents/Carers

2.1 Parents/Carers have a duty to send their children to school correctly dressed and ready for daily school work. Parents/Carers must ensure their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair.

3.0 The Role of the School

3.1 Governors to delegate to the Headteacher and staff the enforcement of the uniform policy as part of the day-to-day running of the school and to achieve consistency among pupils. Teachers can discipline pupils for breaching school rules on the appearance of uniform.

3.2 The school retains the right to act as the final authority in the interpretation of the dress code.

3.3 The form tutor will play an important role in monitoring uniform and helping to resolve any problems e.g. financial, and will be able to apply sanctions where appropriate. Form tutors will contact parents in the first instance to resolve any issues. When issues are not resolved, Heads of House will become involved and a member of the Senior Leadership Team will work with families if issues are recurrent or remain unresolved.

3.4 A pupil may not attend lessons if clothing, hairstyle or personal appearance is inappropriate for school.

3.5 The Headteacher, or a person authorised by the Head of School, may instruct a pupil to go home briefly to remedy a breach of the school rules on appearance or uniform. When making this decision the child's age will be taken into consideration.

3.6 For pupils in years 7-11, parents/carers will be contacted and the pupil only sent home

during school hours if accompanied or with the permission of a parent/carer.

- 3.7 Where pupils are sent home to change, this is an authorised absence, not an exclusion.
- 3.8 If the pupil continues to breach uniform rules in such a way as to be sent home to avoid school, or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the pupil's absence may be counted as unauthorised absence.
- 3.9 In either case the pupil's parents/carers must be notified and the absence recorded.
- 3.10 Breaches of uniform policy can lead to suspension from school in line with legal requirements for suspension.
- 3.11 Items of non-permitted clothing, jewellery or accessories will be confiscated and only returned at the end of the school day
- 3.12 A parent/carer having genuine difficulty providing items of school clothing should contact their child's Head of House, in confidence, to establish whether financial support might be available.
- 3.13 While the school does not operate a formal second-hand uniform shop, we gratefully accept donations of good-quality uniform items. Families are welcome to these items donated in exchange for a small voluntary contribution.

4.0 Issues Arising from the Policy

- 4.1 Parents/Carers should raise any issues relating to school uniform, dress code or other aspects of appearance with their Head of House
- 4.2 In extreme weather conditions, local decisions may be made to alter compulsory elements of the school uniform.

5.0 KS3 and 4

- 5.1 All items of uniform should be clearly labelled with the pupil's name.

6.0 Clothing

6.1 KS3 + 4 - Compulsory items

- Maroon blazer (available from Monkhouse only). Must be worn to all lessons and tutor time. Staff may allow pupils to remove their blazers in lessons. Compulsory other than when staff permit removal or when children are using courts/field during social time.
- White, collared shirt, buttons to the neck. These must be tucked into trousers/skirts at all times aside from when on the courts/field at social time.
- St Katherine's clip on tie in each House colours (available on ParentPay or from SSO).
- Grey tailored trousers and of a length, material and style appropriate to an academic working environment with no fashion elements. No leggings, jeggings, tight Lycra/tight-fitting trousers or pockets on legs, zipped pockets, very narrow or very wide-bottomed trousers.
- Grey, pleated knee-length skirt. Skirts must not be rolled up.

6.2 Optional items

- Grey with maroon stripe v-neck jumper (optional and available from Monkhouse only).
- Grey, tailored, knee length shorts.

- 6.3 Plain white t-shirts (or vests) are permitted under the school shirt. Coloured t-shirts are **not** permitted to be worn under the school shirt.

6.4 Tights

- Grey, black plain or skin tone tights are permitted. Other colours are not permitted.

6.5 Footwear

Black shoes only. Shoes with heels, boots and shoes made of canvas and other non-waterproof materials are not allowed.

6.6 Outerwear

- Gloves and hats are allowed but must be removed for lessons. Hijabs and durags must be plain in colour. Bags should not be handbag in style and must be large enough to carry all possessions required for learning.
- Coats must be weatherproof and must be removed during lessons and tutor time. Denim coats, fleeces and sweatshirt garments, including hoodies, are not allowed.

6.7 Jewellery

Rings, bracelets, badges and necklaces are permitted. Students may wear studs or small hoops in their earlobes. Jewellery must be quickly removable for practical lessons. If jewellery is deemed unsafe or excessive students will be asked to remove it.

6.8 The following are not allowed in school:

- Ø Unnatural hair colours or 'extreme' hairstyles and hairstyles that do not conform with the health and safety requirements of practical lessons.
- Ø Any other kind of piercings aside from earrings.
- Ø Nail extensions
- Ø Excessive or unnatural makeup

7.0 KS5

- 7.1 In keeping with a modern Sixth Form, our Post 16 pupils are permitted to wear their own choice of clothing in keeping with a work-appropriate, casual appearance.

The following are **not** permitted:

- Tops which do not meet bottoms
- Clothes which reveal underwear
- Excessive torn clothing
- Shorts / skirts of an inappropriate length for a professional environment
- Clothes with offensive words, logos, or images
- Extensive body piercing
- Extremes of fashion.

- 7.2 Throughout the year, there will be various opportunities for themed dress and pupils are actively encouraged to engage with these events to cement their role as active members of the sixth form.

- 7.3 On certain occasions, pupils may be asked to adopt a more formal attire (e.g. when volunteering at school events).

8.0 PE

- 8.1 No jewellery or items of body piercing may be worn for PE. They must be removed. Taping is not an option and should not be done by a parent, child or adult in school.

- 8.2 Staff will give a verbal reminder to pupils to remove any visible or invisible items of body piercing. If a student chooses not to remove the piercing, these items will be confiscated and passed to the Student Support Office.

- 8.3 A pupil who refuses to remove stud or other piercings will not be allowed to participate in PE and will be sent to the Ready to Learn room. Should this happen on a further occasion the Head

of House will be informed and future action discussed.

8.4 Studs need to be stored **by the pupil**. A member of staff will not store them as this could present a health and safety risk. Items will only be kept at Student Support.

8.5 Watches should also be removed for PE. These can be safely stored by a member of staff in the changing room office.

8.6 Even if a parent has sent a letter of absolution or an indemnity form to give their permission for jewellery to be worn this is not legal and the wearing of jewellery in PE will still not be allowed.

8.7 Any spectacles worn during PE lessons should be shatterproof.

8.8 Pupils who wear hearing aids may also need to wear these for PE in order to participate. If a student can participate in PE without wearing his / her spectacles or hearing aid then these will be safely stored by a member of staff.

8.9 If a pupil has to wear a medical bracelet, for health and safety reasons this should be either covered by a Velcro medical band or a sweatband and secured by adhesive tape during PE. If possible, the bracelet should be removed and handed to the member of staff in charge of the group.

8.10 The PE kit at St. Katherine's has been designed to allow pupils to be involved in all sports activities currently taught within the PE curriculum while giving parents the best value for money.

9. Compulsory PE kit for all pupils

- Black and red polo shirt with school badge (male & female shirts available)
- Black and red skort with school badge OR black shorts with school badge
- Hooped red, black and white football socks
- Cycling shorts or similar are not permitted

9.1 Other essential items for PE

- Training shoes (suitable for physical activity)
- Studded rugby / football boots
- Reversible rugby shirt (pupils participating in contact rugby only)
- Shin pads

9.2 Optional PE kit for pupils

- Black and red PE jumper
- Black tracksuit trousers with school badge
- Gum shield (strongly recommended)

9.3 PLEASE NOTE:

- Pupils studying BTEC sport as an examination course in KS4 or KS5 (Years 10- 13) have the option to purchase, through the school, an alternative polo shirt and shorts. This kit is not compulsory but will give pupils on the courses a sense of identity when taking part in leadership activities. Pupils will be given a letter with more details on embarking their course.
- Optional items are intended as being in addition to the compulsory sportswear and not as an alternative to it.
- Long shorts are a safety hazard in the gym and are therefore not allowed.

10. EQUIPMENT

10.1 School Bag

EVERY Pupil is required to have a school bag in excess of the size of an A4 pad of paper and large enough to carry their equipment of planners, books, kit and pencil case. Hand bags are not permitted

10.2 Lessons

Pupils are required to bring daily to school a basic level of equipment in order to be ready to learn:

- Pencil case
- At least two black pens
- At least two green pens
- At least two pencils
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Sharpener
- Highlighters
- Glue Stick
- Coloured pens
- Scientific calculator
- Reading book

10.2.1 Individual faculties will communicate clearly with pupils and their parents which other pieces of equipment are needed for their subject.

10.2.2 Pupils will receive consequences in line with the school's behaviour policy for non-presentation of any of these items and regular checks will be made in lessons and tutor time.

11.0 Valuables, non-permitted items and confiscation

- 11.2 St Katherine's School does not accept responsibility for loss or damage to any valuables brought into school. Valuable items that are handed in will be kept in a safe and only returned at the end of the school day
- 11.3 The following items are not permitted: tobacco products, matches, smoking materials, illegal drugs or substances, weapons. These items will be confiscated in line with our Drugs Policy.
- 11.4 Pupils should not bring fizzy/energy drinks, cans or glass bottles into school. These items will be confiscated and will not be returned to pupils.
- 11.5 Other non permitted items brought into or used in school will be confiscated and only returned at the end of the term. Items that breach health and safety will be destroyed or passed to the police.

12.0 Policy Review

The Governing Body of our school is responsible for ensuring the review of this policy at least biennially.

St Katherine's School Uniform Expectations



Blazers: Maroon blazer (available from Monkhouse only). Must be worn to all lessons and tutor time. Staff may allow pupils to remove their blazers in lessons. Compulsory other than when staff permit removal or when children are using courts/field during social time.

Jumpers: Grey with maroon stripe v-neck jumper (optional and available from Monkhouse only).

Shirts: White, collared shirt, buttons to the neck. These must be tucked into trousers/skirts at all times aside from when on the courts/field at social time.

Trousers: Grey tailored trousers and of a length, material and style appropriate to an academic working environment with no fashion elements. No leggings, jeggings, tight Lycra/tight-fitting trousers or pockets on legs, zipped pockets, very narrow or very wide-bottomed trousers.

Skirts: Grey, pleated knee-length skirt. Skirts must not be rolled up.

Shorts: Grey, tailored, knee length shorts.

Tights: Must be black, grey or neutral.

PE Uniform:

1. St Katherine's polo shirt
 2. St Katherine's football shorts or St Katherine's skirt or St Katherine's leggings or St Katherine's joggers
 3. St Katherine's hooped football socks
 4. Training shoes (suitable for physical activity)
 5. Studded boots
 6. Shin pads (compulsory for football)
- (full information regarding St Katherine's PE Uniform through the PE faculty)

Coats: Coats must be weatherproof and must be removed during lessons and tutor time. Denim coats, fleeces and sweatshirt garments, including hoodies, are not allowed.

Ties: St Katherine's clip on tie in each House colours (available on ParentPay or from SSO).



Shoes: Black shoes. Trainers, shoes with heels and shoes made of canvas and other non-waterproof materials are not allowed.

Jewellery: Rings, bracelets, badges and necklaces are permitted. Students may wear studs or small hoops in their earlobes. Jewellery must be quickly removable for practical lessons. If jewellery is deemed unsafe or excessive students will be asked to remove it.

Outerwear: Gloves and hats are allowed but must be removed for lessons. Hijabs and durags must be plain in colour. Bags should not be handbag in style and must be large enough to carry all possessions required for learning.

The following are not allowed in school:

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- Ø Any other kind of piercings aside from earrings.
- Ø Nail extensions
- Ø Excessive or unnatural makeup

All items of school clothing should be clearly marked with the student's name.