

Uniform & Appearance Policy

St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College, Claudy



Ethos

Our uniform identifies pupils as part of the St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's community. Being appropriately dressed and taking pride in one's appearance allows pupils to develop a positive mindset for learning and contributing to the life of the School.

Rationale

This policy has been developed following consultation. St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College appreciates the co-operation, support and understanding of parents/guardians in upholding our high standards regarding uniform and appearance.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Ensure that all pupils and their parents/guardians understand what is expected and accepted by the School in terms of uniform and appearance;
 - Outline the steps that the School will take to ensure compliance with the policy;
 - Make clear the roles and responsibilities of all members of the school community in ensuring that the highest standards are upheld in respect of uniform and appearance
- Roles and Responsibilities
Pupils This policy has been created following extensive consultation with the pupils of the School. Therefore, pupils must ensure that they understand:
- The correct uniform to be worn;
 - The correct way in which uniform is to be worn;
 - What is/is not acceptable to the School in terms of pupil appearance.

Pupils should ensure that they are fully aware of the Uniform List and Appearance Code and adhere to both. A copy of the uniform list can be found in pupil planner and a copy of this policy, the Uniform List and Appearance Code can be found on the school website.

If a pupil is unsure about whether a planned change to their appearance will be acceptable to the School, it is their responsibility to seek clarification from their Head of Year in the first instance. Pupils must also make any changes to their uniform and/or appearance to comply with this policy as directed by any member of staff.

Prefects hold positions of responsibility and are role models to other pupils in the school. Pupils who do not uphold the highest standards of uniform and appearance throughout their time at the School may not become Prefects. Similarly, Prefects who do not uphold the highest standards of uniform and appearance may be removed from the position.

Parents/Guardians

Parents and guardians are asked to familiarise themselves with the Uniform List and Appearance Code before purchasing items of uniform for their child or before their child undergoes a change in appearance which may not be in keeping with what is acceptable to the school. Parents/guardians should contact the school (Head of Year in the first instance) if they have questions or queries regarding any aspect of school uniform or appearance.

Staff

All staff will ensure that the School's expected standard is always upheld in respect of uniform and appearance and will challenge a pupil if they feel that an aspect of the pupil's uniform and/or appearance falls outside of the expectations of the school. Regular uniform checks will take place and pupils will be regularly reminded of what is expected and accepted in terms of pupil uniform and appearance.

Support for Parents/Guardians

Financial support towards uniform costs is available from the Education Authority (EA). All parents/guardians seeking to apply for this are required to apply on-line via the EA website: <https://www.eani.org.uk/financial-help/free-school-meals-uniform-grants>

The allowance is open to parents/guardians whose child/children attend a school in Northern Ireland and who receive one of the following benefits:

- Income Support;
- Income Based Jobseeker's Allowance;
- Income Related Employment and Support Allowance;
- Guarantee Element of State Pension Credit;
- Child Tax Credit or Working Tax Credit with an annual taxable household income of £16,190 or less;
- Universal Credit with net household earnings not exceeding £14,000 per year; or where the parent/guardian is an Asylum Seeker supported by the Home Office Asylum Support Assessment Team (ASAT).

Pre-loved and Forgotten Items

The School operates pre-loved uniform sales which is available at various times throughout the year and this is publicised through normal communication channels. A small number of school ties are available to borrow from the School if a pupil forgets their tie.

Representing the School

The wearing of the school uniform or school sports kit identifies pupils as representatives of St. Patrick's & St. Brigid's College. When in uniform or school sports kit, all pupils are ambassadors of the school. This includes travelling to and from school and attending events or fixtures when wearing school uniform or school sports kit. It is important that our pupils always look and behave appropriately. The support of parents/guardians in this regard is appreciated.

Ensuring Compliance with the Policy

If, for any reason, a short-term deviation from the Uniform List or Appearance Code is required (e.g. due to an injury), a written request should be made to the pupil's Head of Year by their parent/guardian. Any longer-term deviation from the Uniform List and/or Appearance Code will be considered in exceptional circumstances and parents/guardians are asked to communicate, in writing, to their child's Head of Year in the first instance. Individualism is not deemed by the school as an acceptable reason to not adhere to the Uniform List and Appearance Code. Any pupil who does not uphold the standards and expectations of the School as laid out in this policy will receive a sanction/sanctions in line with the School's Positive Behaviour for Learning Policy.

Uniform

BOYS

1. Navy Blazer with regulation badge
2. School jumper
3. Navy regulation trousers (Fashion trousers are not permitted)
4. White shirt
5. Regulation clip-on tie ONLY
6. Plain Black Shoes
7. Formal Black/Navy socks (white and ankle socks are not permitted)
8. School scarf (no fashion scarves)
9. Black/Navy Coats - hoodies should not be worn as a replacement for a coat

GIRLS

1. Navy Blazer with regulation badge
2. School jumper
3. Navy regulation skirt - 21 inch length - skirts are to be worn properly (hem to be on the knee when standing)
4. White blouse
5. Regulation clip-on tie ONLY
6. Plain Black Shoes (**Vans/Converse or similar black canvas style footwear are not permitted**)
7. Formal Black/Navy socks (white and ankle socks are not permitted)
8. School scarf (no fashion scarves)
9. Black/Navy Coats - hoodies should not be worn as a replacement for a coat

P.E. UNIFORM

MFC gear (see Packs)

Plain navy/black tracksuit bottoms/leggings can be worn

School hoodies can only be worn as part of the P.E kit

***Pre-loved Uniform Sales at the College: 20.06.24 & 23.08.24**

APPEARANCE

Black/Navy Coats - hoodies should not be worn as a replacement for a coat

Facial piercings are not allowed. Two pairs of studs are permitted - no hoops

No extreme haircuts - natural colours only

No excessive make-up

EQUIPMENT

To take an active part in all their lesson's pupils will require the following equipment:

Pens

Pencils

Ruler

Rubber

Pencil Case (ideally a clear one)

Protractor

Colouring pencils

Calculator