

Our Lady and Saint Michael's RC Primary School

Ysgol Gynradd Gatholig y Forwyn a Sant Mihangel

School uniform and appearance.



We live, we love, we learn, we grow in Jesus.

Byw, Caru, Dysgu, Tyfu yn yr Iesu

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School Vision-

We live, we love, we learn, we grow in Jesus.

At Our Lady and St Michael Roman Catholic School we aim to create a happy, secure and stimulating environment, where learners are encouraged to reach their full potential.

The school seeks to work effectively with others in order to play a central role in the community.

All staff are committed to continuous improvement and achievement of high standards.

All children are welcome at OLSM and are treated according to our belief that we are all children of God. We aim to ensure that they are equipped to take advantage of the opportunities the school provides, seek to meet their learning needs, support and challenge them to make good progress and celebrate their successes in an ethos which recognises and celebrates diversity.

Our teachers have high expectations for our children and provide opportunities for all children to succeed, including:-

- Children of differing abilities.
- Different genders.
- Children with additional learning needs.
- Children who are less able.
- Children from all social and cultural backgrounds.
- Children of different ethnic groups, including travellers, refugees and asylum seekers.
- Children from diverse linguistic backgrounds.

Our teachers are aware that our children bring to school different experiences, interests and strengths that will influence the way they learn. We believe that all our children are entitled to experience success and fulfil their potential to be lifelong learners.

Introduction

The following policy has been written with reference to Welsh Government, School uniform and appearance: policy guidance for governing bodies, May 2023.

This policy focuses on:

- ensuring that due regard is given to securing equality of treatment between pupils of different sexes and genders; pupils from different ethnic and religious backgrounds and; disabled pupils in relation to school uniform and appearance policies.
- cost and affordability • practical considerations involved in introducing or changing school uniform and appearance policies.
- consultation with parents, pupils and the community.

Properly developed and appropriately implemented, a school uniform can:

- provide a sense of identity, community and cohesion within the school.
- support positive behaviour and school discipline.
- ensure pupils dress appropriately for learning activity.
- remove peer pressure to dress in particular fashions.

- enable pupils of all backgrounds to share in a common identity which embraces their particular requirements.
- help reduce inequalities between pupils and help reduce some triggers for bullying.
- benefit safeguarding and attendance policies through helping to identify truants.
- assist identification of strangers on school premises.
- support and promote the ethos of the school.

UNCRC- Rights of the Child

The following document also recognises, The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Rights of the Child Articles 2, 12, and 13 have particular relevance.

Rationale

Children of families who attend Our Lady and Saint Michael's RC Primary school come from a wide variety of backgrounds both culturally and financially. With this in mind the school has always attempted to ensure that families gain the best value for money around uniform and that they are supported to purchase/acquire school uniform that is affordable and fit for purpose.

Uniform

At OLSM school families can obtain uniform in 2 ways- Newly purchased and nearly new.

1. New-

The outline below explains the uniform requirements and from July 2023 the updated school uniform guidance allows a greater flexibility of approach for families while also ensuring a consistent look for all pupils.

New uniform may be purchased from our recommended supplier, 'Reflex embroidery' via their website - [Our Lady of St Michaels Primary School | C C Sports \(ccsportsclubstore.com\)](https://www.ccsportsclubstore.com)

Alternatively unbranded uniform may be purchased from a variety of other retailers if desired.

We would only ask that you ensure that the colour choice is inline with the guidance below.

2. Nearly new-

Nearly new uniform can be acquired in 2 ways-

- In the school foyer the school New-2-You area regularly has nearly new uniform that can be selected at no charge or if you wish a small donation.
- Alternatively, our school PTA (Friends of OLSM) regularly have table sales of nearly new uniform where again only a small donation is required.

Uniform guidance

Below you will find the current uniform guidance from July 2023-

Foundation Phase Uniform (Reception, Year 1 & Year 2)	Winter/Spring terms Pale blue polo shirts with or without the school logo on the left side. Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore. Navy v-neck jumper with or without logo on left side, Navy cardigan with or without logo on left side. Black socks. White socks/navy tights. Black school shoes. PE-Pale blue t-shirt with or without logo on left side. Navy shorts. Navy zipped hoodie with logo, Navy joggers. Sports socks. Daps/trainers. Summer term Pale blue polo shirts with or without the school logo on the left side. Grey shorts. Skort. Pale blue small check dress.
Key Stage 2 Uniform (Year 3- Year 6)	Winter/Spring terms Pale blue shirt with school tie. Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore. Navy v-neck jumper with or without logo on left side, Navy cardigan with or without logo on left side. Black socks. White socks/navy tights. Black school shoes. PE-Pale blue t-shirt with/without logo on left side. Navy shorts. Navy zipped hoody with logo, Navy joggers. Sports socks. Daps/trainers. Summer term Pale blue polo shirts with or without the school logo on the left side. Grey shorts, Skort.

	Pale blue small check dress.
Optional Extras	• Book bag with logo. • PE/swim bag with logo • Reversible waterproof fleece/jacket with logo.

Physical appearance

OLSM school is the most ethnically diverse school in Monmouthshire, and this means that our families have a number of cultural needs.

Some children's hair may only be able to be styled in a certain way due to physiological factors e.g. Children with heritage from the Global majority may have a hair type that can only be styled in a certain way.

Likewise, at OLSM school we have numerous faiths represented. Again, if family's faith needs require modifications to our uniform then again we would always want to do our utmost to support individual needs.

If this is ever a concern, then please contact the Headteacher for guidance.

Hair

Long hair must be tied back for both health and safety reasons and also hygiene.

Hair should not be dyed unless when sponsored charity events occur and guidance has been given.

Jewellery

Within a school setting where children play and interact with each other in a variety of ways, jewellery can cause a great health and safety concern. Therefore, at OLSM we only allow the following-

- Individual wrist watches may be worn.
- Only stud earrings.

No other forms of jewellery should be worn as this could cause an issue for the wearer and for others.

School Essentials Grant

The Welsh Government recognises that some parents face financial hardship from the costs of purchasing school uniforms for their children. The Welsh Government also believes that the financial support parents receive towards the cost of school uniform should not be a barrier to learning.

The School Essentials Grant (formerly called PDG Access) was launched in 2018. The purpose of the grant is to provide financial assistance to eligible families on lower incomes for the purchase of:

- School uniform including coats and shoes.
- School sports kit including footwear.

Within Monmouthshire families can find further information about potential grant funding via this link-

[Free School Meals & School Essentials Grant - Monmouthshire](#)

Complaints

If you ever have a complaint regarding our uniform and appearance policy, please contact the school Head teacher so that we can deal with your concerns.