



## School Uniform Policy

**Responsible for policy:**

**Cardinal Wiseman Local Academy Committee**

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**June 2022**

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**June 2023**

**Policy Status:**

**Good Practice**

**Chair of Academy Committee:**



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## Definitions

In this **School Uniform Policy**, unless the context otherwise requires, the following expressions shall have the following meanings:

- i **'The Romero Catholic Academy'** means the Company named at the beginning of this **School Uniform Policy** and includes all sites upon which the Company is undertaking, from time to time, being carried out. The Romero Catholic Academy includes; **Corpus Christi, Good Shepherd, Sacred Heart, Blue Sky, SS Peter and Paul, St Gregory, St John Fisher, St Patrick, Cardinal Wiseman, Shared Services Team.**
- ii **'Romero Catholic Academy'** means the Company responsible for the management of the Academy and, for all purposes, means the employer of staff at the Company.
- iii **'Board'** means the board of Directors of the Romero Catholic Academy.
- iv **'Clerk'** means the Clerk to the Board or the Clerk to the Local Academy Committee of the Academy appointed from time to time, as appropriate.
- v **'Chair'** means the Chair of the Board of the Directors or the Local Academy Committee appointed from time to time.
- vi **'Catholic Senior Executive Leader'** means the person responsible for performance of all Academies and Staff within the Multi Academy Company and is accountable to the Board of Directors.
- vii **'Diocesan Schools Commission'** means the education service provided by the diocese, which may also be known, or referred to, as the Birmingham Diocesan Education Service.
- viii **'Local Academy Committee'** means the governing body of the School.
- ix **'Academy Committee Representatives'** means the governors appointed and elected to the Local Academy Committee of the School, from time to time.
- x **'Principal'** means the substantive Principal, who is the person with overall responsibility for the day to day management of the school.
- xi **'School'** means the school or college within The Romero Catholic Academy and includes all sites upon which the school undertaking is, from time to time, being carried out.
- xii **'Shared Services Team'** means the staff who work in the central team across the Company (e.g. HR/ Finance)
- xiii **'Vice-Chair'** means the Vice-Chair of the Academy Committee elected from time to time.



## 1. Scope

This document outlines the School Policy on Uniform and Appearance. This policy applies to Pupils in Year 7 – 11 and it details expectations in relation to the uniform and appearance, rules and regulations in Key Stage 3 and 4.

A separate Policy is in place for Sixth Form and this can be found via a hyperlink on the Linked Policy section below.

## 2. Key Principles

We believe wearing a uniform is underpinned by a number of key principles. By wearing a uniform, it promotes equality of opportunity for all pupils, social cohesion amongst pupils and protection from social pressure to dress in a particular way. Furthermore, it helps to give the pupils of the school a sense of identity, belonging and positive self-image. The uniform of Cardinal Wiseman, details the Coat of Arms and therefore it gives the school a well-respected profile and supports its Catholic, Christian ethos.

Pupils wearing the uniform of Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School contribute to creating a culture of high expectations and high achievement within the school:

- Our badge states “Omnia pro Christo” which means “All things for Christ”
- It creates a recognisable identity for our school.
- It promotes respect.
- It improves learning by reducing distraction and sharpens focus on schoolwork.
- It makes the classroom a more serious environment, allowing students to perform better academically.
- It is an important part of being a school student.
- It means students don't have to worry about peer pressure when it comes to their clothes.

When everyone is dressed the same, worrying about what you look like is not so important. There is no competition about being dressed in the latest trend.

## 3. Introduction

The school is named after Cardinal Nicholas Wiseman who became the first Cardinal upon the re-establishment of the Catholic hierarchy in England and Wales in 1850. His coat of arms is displayed on every student's blazer. The motto is 'All things for Christ' therefore faith is at the heart of everything we do, as well as recognising that we are all made in the image of God.

Cardinal Wiseman School, as a member of Romero Multi Academy Company, believes that all young people, whatever their background, are made in God's image and have unique talents. In Christ, all things are possible, and we believe that each individual is capable of learning and of experiencing success as a result of hard work, commitment, learning from mistakes, and guidance. Effective learning is a result of effort and persistence. All pupils are capable of growth and overcoming difficulties in learning. Pope Francis said: “Education cannot be neutral. It is either positive or negative; either it enriches or it impoverishes; either it enables a person to grow or it lessens, even corrupts him. The mission of schools is to develop a sense of truth, of what is good and beautiful.”



#### 4. Acceptable Uniform – Boys

##### Boys wear:

- Blazer - navy with school badge.
- Black trousers (no jeans or chinos — see illustration overleaf).
- **Years 7, 8 and 9** white school shirt (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- **Year 10 and 11** blue school shirt (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- School tie
- Navy, black or dark grey socks.
- Black lace up or slip on shoes/ankle/shoe boots. (no logos, heavy boots, training shoes, canvas pumps/plimsolls or Velcro — see illustration).
- No baseball caps to be worn in school.
- Blazers should be worn to and from school.

#### 5. Acceptable Uniform – Girls

##### Girls wear:

- Blazer - navy with school badge.
- Black knee length pleated skirt (**no tube, mini, split, wrap around, divided, tight or Lycra skirts**) or black trousers of acceptable width or style (**no jeans, cords or leggings/jeggings, no skinny trousers**) — see illustration.
- **Years 7, 8 and 9** white school shirt (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- **Year 10 and 11** blue school shirt (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- School tie.
- Plain black tights (40 denier) or plain black/white ankle socks. **No knee-high, over the knee or thigh length socks allowed.**
- Plain black shoes — heels no higher than 1.5"/4cms. (No fashion shoes/boots, training shoes, canvas pumps/plimsolls, stiletto heels, sandals, platform shoes or sling back shoes).
- Blazers should be worn to and from school.

##### Boys/Girls wear:

- Official school jumper — navy blue with school logo.
- A plain dark coloured coat without emblems or badges.
- **Please note - no hoodies and no denim jackets.**
- **Summer Term only (after May half-term holiday)** – black, knee-length, tailored shorts are permitted (**No sports, cycling, Lycra shorts allowed**).

#### 6. Jewellery

Some jewellery is allowed:

- Students may wear one pair small stud earrings (in ear lobes only – no body or facial piercings permitted).
- One chain – must be worn under school shirt.
- One flat ring permitted.
- Watch permitted.
- Wearing of religious bracelets is permitted.
- The wearing of head scarves for religious reasons is permitted. However, head scarves must be plain black or navy, although in hot weather white or cream plain scarves will be permitted.
- Students are not permitted to cover their faces.



- Students are not allowed to have their coat hoods up at any time in the school buildings.

## 7. Make-up/Tattoos

- No make-up or nail varnish to be worn.
- No acrylic nails.
- No false eyelashes.
- No tattoos.

## 8. Hair

In keeping with our traditional uniform, we promote traditional hair styles.  
Exceptions: non-traditional styles will be at the Principal's discretion.

- If students dye their hair, only natural colours should be used.
- Boys must not come to school with lines or patterns shaved into their hair (or eye brows).

**Final decision is at the discretion of the Principal**

## 9. Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School Uniform



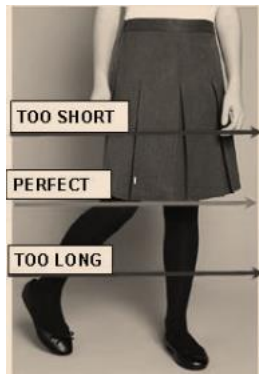
Years 7, 8 and 9 Boys and Girls

Years 10 and 11 Boys and Girls



## 10. Dress Standards for Girls

Please find below, a selection of pleated skirts and trousers from which to choose from. These are acceptable school uniform. Please note that the skirt needs to be of an appropriate length (see illustration). Trousers should be black and of acceptable width (bootcut). **NB — No jeans, leggings, jeggings, chinos. No Lycra/tube style skirts.**



These images are guides to the high expectations that Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School has regarding our uniform.

Although we do not recommend a particular supplier, we can confirm that the following distributors stock uniform of this style: Marks & Spencer, Tesco, and Asda and Cat Balou and Andy Blair.

Shops display stock as school wear or back to school wear. This does not necessarily mean that it meets Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School standards. Should you require any clarification, do not hesitate to contact us or alternatively refer to the above guide.

***Where students arrive at school wearing uniform that does not meet Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School uniform regulations, parents will be contacted with an expectation that the uniform is changed.***



## 11. Shoes for Girls

Plain black shoes form part of our uniform. Please note that heels should be no higher than 1.5"/4cms. We ask that girls **do not** wear fashion shoes/boots, training shoes, canvas pumps/plimsolls, stiletto heels, sandals, platform shoes or sling back shoes.

Shops display stock as school wear or back to school wear. This does not necessarily mean that it meets the standards of Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School. Should you require clarification, do not hesitate to contact us or alternatively refer to the above guide.

Please find a selection of shoes from which to choose, which are acceptable school uniform and you will also find below a selection of shoes that are not acceptable:



***Where students arrive at school wearing uniform that does not meet Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School uniform regulations, parents will be contacted with an expectation that the uniform is changed.***

Students will often cite members of their peer group as wearing a style of non-regulation shoe as a reason for them to wear incorrect and sometimes unsafe footwear. However Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School will challenge all students in terms of footwear.

***Students will be asked to change footwear not considered to be of school regulation immediately.***





## 12. Dress Standards for Boys

Please find below, a selection of trouser styles from which to choose from. These are acceptable school uniform.

***Please note that boys are not permitted to wear jeans or chinos.***

The images below are guides to the expectations that the school has regarding our uniform. Although we do not recommend a particular supplier, we can confirm that the following distributors stock uniform of this style: Marks & Spencer, Tesco, ASDA and Cat Balou and Andy Blair.

Shops display stock as school wear or back to school wear. This does not necessarily mean that it meets the Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School uniform standards. Should you require any clarification, do not hesitate to contact us or alternatively refer to the above guide.

***Where students arrive at school wearing uniform that does not meet Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School uniform regulations, parents will be contacted with an expectation that the uniform is changed.***





### 13. Shoes for Boys

Black lace up or slip on shoes/ankle/shoe boots. Boys are not permitted to wear shoes with logos, heavy boots, training shoes, canvas pumps/plimsolls or Velcro as illustrated below.

Shops display stock as school wear or back to school wear. This does not necessarily mean that it meets the standards of Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School. Should you require clarification, do not hesitate to contact us or alternatively refer to the above guide.

Please find a selection of shoes from which to choose, which are acceptable school uniform and you will also find below a selection of shoes that are not acceptable:



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## 14. PE Kit

We ask pupils to change into a kit for PE:

- Rugby jersey in Cardinal Wiseman colours.
- Rugby socks in Cardinal Wiseman colours.
- Navy polo shirt for PE with Cardinal Wiseman badge.
- Navy shorts with Cardinal Wiseman badge.
- Navy tracksuit bottoms with Cardinal Wiseman badge.
- Shin pads/gum shield/football boots for boys unless girls take part in extracurricular football.
- Multi-purpose/cross trainers.
- Swimming trunks or shorts (boys), one-piece swimsuit (girls).
- Towel.

All items with the school badge are only available from:

Cat Ballou  
1 – 3 The Burgess  
Coventry  
CV1 1HN  
Tel: 024 7655 5499

We have a small number of ties available to buy from school.

We will be opening a Uniform Shop during each Parents' Evening (Progress Evening) throughout the year. Parents/carers will be able to browse and purchase **good-quality, second-hand uniform** for a small donation to the school fund. However, stock levels will vary throughout the year.

## 15. Links to other policies

- Behaviour and Positive Handling Policy [click here](#)
- Sixth Form Dress Code [click here](#)

## 16. Review of this policy

- The Romero Catholic Academy delegates the implementation of this policy to the Local Academy Committee at Cardinal Wiseman.
- This policy will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Cardinal Wiseman Local Academy Committee.