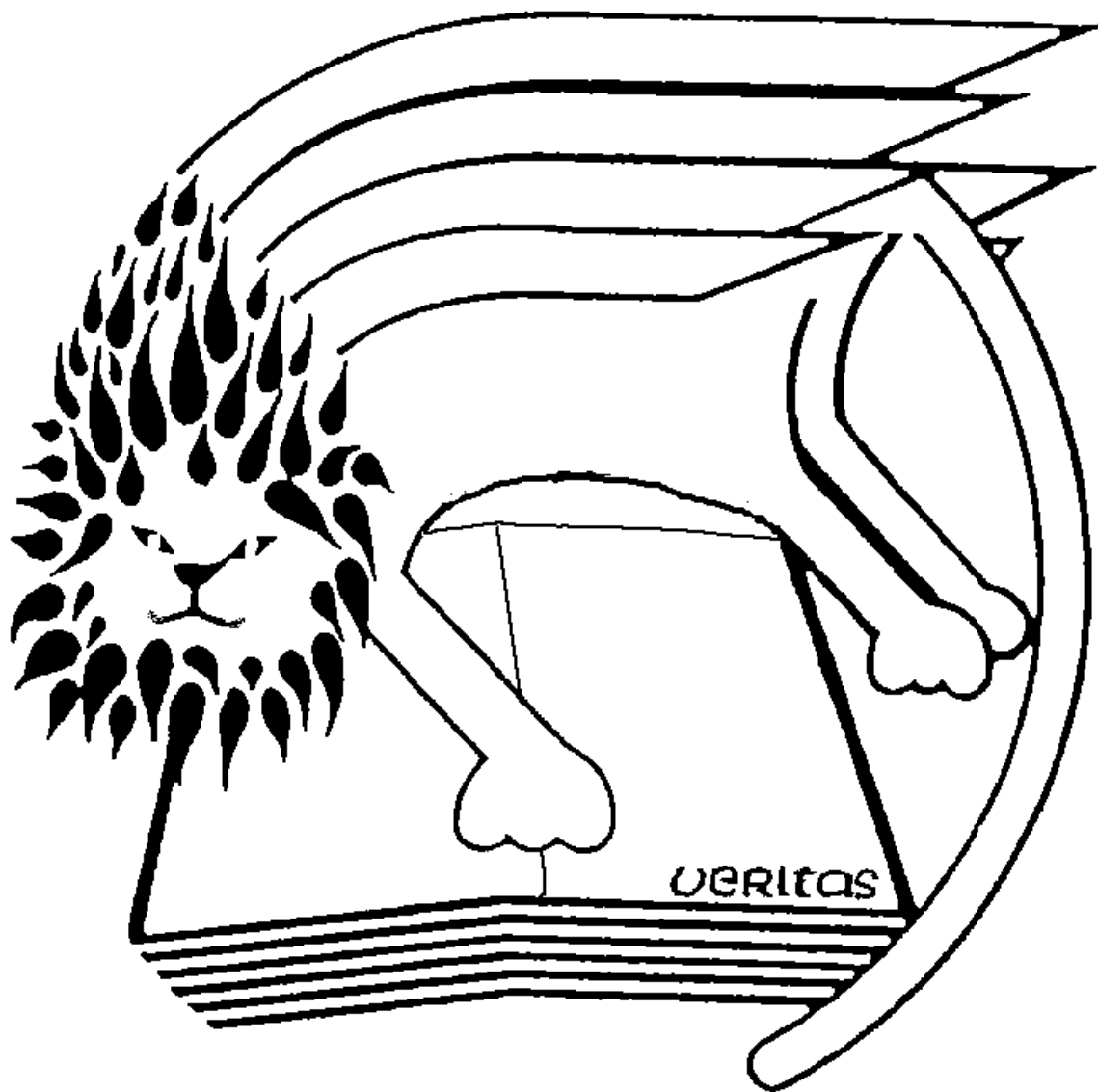


ST MARK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL



Uniform & Appearance

2023/2024

This booklet is designed to enable parents to have a clear idea of the expectations we have of all our pupils. St Mark's has very high standards of dress and is a "strict" uniform school and we are very grateful for the support from parents. In order to clarify any queries you may have the examples in this booklet should ensure that parents are aware of what is acceptable and what is not. Please ensure that you read it before purchasing any new uniform items. Pupils will not be allowed to wear non-uniform items even if they have just been bought. We will put in detention, internally exclude and exclude for a fixed term any pupils who persist in not wearing their uniform properly.

If you are unsure about any uniform purchase please contact the school and refer the matter to the appropriate PPL. The school will make the final decision as to what is acceptable or not according to our policy.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please take particular note of the following comments about non-uniform items that have given us most concern in the past year.

<u>Type of Uniform</u>	<u>Correct</u>	<u>Incorrect NOT Acceptable</u>
Shoes	Plain Black leather Heels – less than 2 inches (5cm)	Suede Canvas Coloured trim/laces Resembling trainers Boots (including Kickers)
Tights (to be worn with skirts – girls)	Plain Navy blue or black Matt and opaque	Patterns Sheer
Socks (only to be worn with trousers boys and girls)	Plain black Plain navy Dark grey	Bright colours Patterns Stripes etc Trainer socks
Girls' skirts	Trim to be visible Knee length (Only available from School Bells)	Rolled over at waist Unfastened Above the knee
Boys' Trousers	Black (Belt to be black if worn) Sitting on waist	Jeans Faded brushed denim Skinny fit or tapered
Girls' Trousers	Black	Lycra Skinny Cropped
Shirts	Blue formal shirt Tucked in at all times Top button done up at all times	Untucked Folded up Tied

<u>Type of Uniform</u>	<u>Correct</u>	<u>Incorrect NOT Acceptable</u>
Blazers	Navy blue with school badge Must be worn on way to and from school and throughout the school day	Black Royal blue Sleeves rolled up
Pullovers/fleeces	School pullover with school trim (from School Bells)	Cardigans Fleeces (either underneath or over blazer)
School ties	Clip on in house colour covering top button of school shirt (available from School Bells)	Frayed or house colours picked out
Scarves/hats	St Mark's hat/scarf or plain black or navy hat or scarves	Any other coloured scarves/hats
Coats	Plain navy blue or black Long enough to cover school blazer	Leather, suede Large logos Casual bomber style Harrington style jacket
Jewellery	Girls earrings - Single plain pair of gold or silver studs (one in each earlobe) Both Boys and Girls - a wristwatch	Earrings coloured or sparkly Hoops Dangly Piercing in top of ear Piercing in nose Retainers (plastic studs) Bracelets Any other jewellery Smart/Apple watches

<u>Type of Uniform</u>	<u>Correct</u>	<u>Incorrect NOT Acceptable</u>
Make up	None – Year 7 and 8 Minimal – Year 9, 10 & 11	
Nails	Clear nails	Nail extensions, coloured nail varnish
PE Kit	All items are available from School Bells and have the school badge embroidered on them. Compulsory items: Blue collared polo shirts, shorts and socks (all logoed) Optional items: Long sleeved logoed quarter zip top and tracksuit bottoms with logo	Any other sports clothing

ALL UNIFORM AND P.E. KIT SHOULD BE CLEARLY MARKED WITH THE PUPIL'S NAME. A large number of lost uniform items go unclaimed each year.

School Bells

<https://www.schoolbellsuniforms.co.uk/>

School Bells,
48 Bell Road,
Hounslow,
TW3 3PB.

0208 577 6656

Hair

- Hairstyles should be conventional. Fad hairstyles, symbols, or marks shaved into the hair or eyebrows is prohibited.
- Natural hair colours only are allowed. Unnaturally blended hair colours are not permitted.
- Hair must be a consistent length and no obvious or dramatic differences in hair length are allowed. For example, hair must not be cut short at the sides and left long on top.
- If hair is longer in length it should either be worn down or tied back neatly. Topknots are not allowed.
- Hair bands or hair beads should be black or navy in colour and small. Scarf style bands, flower clips, large slides and coloured clips are not allowed.
- It is the school's expectation that boys are clean shaven or well-groomed in years 7 to 11. Long or excessive side-burns are not permitted.

The Senior Leadership Team will make the final decision.

Facial Piercings

The only piercings allowed are in the earlobe. One small discrete ear stud is allowed in each ear.

No other facial piercings are allowed. This includes tongue or nose piercings or earrings in the ear other than in the ear lobe.

Retainers to hold open piercings are not allowed.

The wearing of a sticking plaster to cover over a recent piercing is not acceptable. If a pupil has difficulty removing any such piercing this could result in exclusion from school until such time as he/she conforms to school rules.

Nail Varnish

The wearing of nail varnish, false nails or nail jewellery is not allowed.

Nail varnish remover is provided in the Medical Room. However, repeat offenders will be asked to pay to cover costs. Pupils will be required to remove false nails overnight.

Shirts

It is essential that the size of the collar of the school shirt fits well and is large enough to allow the top button to be done up.

The shirt should be long enough to be tucked in.

Pupils may not wear a coloured T-shirt or any other top under the school shirt. If seen the pupil will be asked to remove it.

Ties

The clip on tie is the only acceptable tie. Pupils are expected to wear the correct house colour.

Tights

Girls' tights must not be footless and must not be worn with socks under. Navy blue or black tights only are allowed but leggings are not permitted. Tights should be matt or opaque but not sheer. Socks must not be worn with skirts (the Headteacher will make a decision on whether socks may be worn during the summer term.)

Socks

Plain socks in black, grey or navy blue are the only ones which are acceptable when being worn with trousers.

Shoes

The following are examples of appropriate footwear:



Examples of footwear which are **NOT** acceptable



No plimsoll, trainer or Vans style shoe is acceptable footwear for school. If a shop advertises a shoe as a “school shoe” this may still not be compatible with the uniform policy. If a pupil arrives at school, even with a note, he/she may be sent home or put into isolation in order to resolve the issue. The school will always attempt to support parents where necessary.

The following are FAQs:

- What if the pupil has a medical condition or a Doctor/medical practitioner advises him/her to wear trainers?

A doctor's letter must be provided and the PPL and Welfare should be informed by letter/telephone

- What if the shoes are still wet from the rain the previous day?

Shoes should be left on a radiator to dry overnight

- What if shoes are broken, lost, left at another house, left on the bus, left behind after a sports fixture, left in a locker, left in the car, taken home in a friend's bag and left at home?

Shoes can be purchased at most large supermarkets usually from 8am until 10pm. The school will send a child to purchase another pair of inexpensive shoes if necessary. Parents will be contacted in all instances to enable them to rectify the problem as quickly as possible.

The guidance from the Department for Education allows for "the Head teacher to ask a student to go home to remedy a breach of the school's rules on appearance or uniform. If the student repeatedly infringes the school rules on uniform or appearance this may constitute a disciplinary offence and may be grounds for exclusion."

Final decisions on school uniform infringements will be made by Ms O'Connell, Director of Pastoral Care / Assistant Headteacher.