



**St Patrick's Academy**

# **Uniform Policy**

## **Rationale**

St Patrick's Academy is committed to providing an education of the highest quality for all its pupils. The whole school community, pupils, parents and guardians, governors and staff, have important roles to play in achieving this outcome. A clear understanding of our roles and responsibilities, coupled with effective communication, are key aspects in the pursuit of high-quality educational provision and consequent high achievement and standards.

This uniform policy aims to clarify the general and specific uniform regulations for pupils and to identify the specific compulsory and optional uniform items for boys and girls. It also outlines the roles and responsibilities of parents, pupils and staff in relation to the uniform regulations.

The policy has been drawn up after consultation with key stakeholders and is based on current guidance and statutory regulations.

## **Purpose**

At St Patrick's Academy we have high expectations of all, in everything we do. The school's ethos promotes an atmosphere which encourages effort, enjoyment and a celebration of the achievements of all our pupils. We believe our uniform plays an important role in establishing the ethos of our school and in:

- supporting discipline and good behaviour
- ensuring the health and safety of pupils
- encouraging identity with the school and nurturing a sense of community
- protecting pupils from social pressures to dress in a particular way
- instilling a sense of pride in the school
- Promoting more effective teaching and learning.

St Patrick's Academy pupils are ambassadors for the school and they are judged by their appearance and conduct when wearing the school uniform. It is essential, therefore, that all pupils adhere to the uniform regulations and that their behaviour and appearance at all times uphold the school's reputation.

## **Guidelines**

### **ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **PARENTS**

Parents are expected to:

- give their vital support in maintaining the very high standards, by adhering strictly to the uniform policy
- send their son/daughter to school dressed in the correct school uniform, and ensure that it is clean and in good repair
- ensure that their son/daughter conforms to the uniform regulations and standards and thus avoids the possibility of sanctions being applied, which could include asking a parent/guardian to take their son/daughter home until their uniform and/or appearance is deemed appropriate

- ensure all their uniform items, including their PE kit and equipment, are clearly labelled with their full name and form class.

## **PUPILS**

Pupils are expected to:

- wear their full uniform when attending St Patrick's Academy, or when participating in any school-organised event outside school
- maintain a high standard of personal appearance at all times
- have all of their uniform items, including their PE kit and equipment, clearly labelled, with their full name and form class.

## **STAFF**

Staff are expected to:

- ensure that pupils wear their uniform correctly
- challenge a pupil whose appearance or uniform does not meet the uniform regulations and record any uniform offence
- follow-up on persistent breaches of uniform regulations by referring them to the Head of Year.

## **GENERAL UNIFORM REGULATIONS FOR ALL PUPILS**

**TOP BUTTONS** - top buttons and cuffs of the shirt **MUST** be fastened at all times.

**TIES** – only the school clip-on tie is to be worn. The tie must be worn on the journey to and from school. Mrs McMahon will loan ties before 8.50am which should be returned to her on the same day at 3.30. Pupils must sign use the signing out sheet for ties.

**BADGES & PINS** –only official school badges such as fainni & pioneer pins are allowed.

**PE UNIFORM** - **ONLY** the official school P.E. clothing **MUST** be worn. In the interests of Health & Safety only sports trainers are to be worn.

A tracksuit top or “hoodie”, even one used for sport in the school, **MUST NOT** be worn with the non-sports uniform, for example when travelling to and from school.

## **SPECIFIC UNIFORM REGULATIONS FOR GIRLS**

### **MAKE-UP**

- For Years 8-12, make-up is **NOT** permitted; this includes fake tan and eye make up. Pupils wearing make up will be asked to remove it and will be given a conduct log
- Years 13 and 14 may wear light foundation but no other make up is allowed
- Nail varnish is **NOT** permitted.

**JEWELLERY** - the **ONLY** jewellery permitted is:

- a small gold/silver stud or sleeper earring, one in each ear lobe
- a watch
- One chain and one ring

- No other facial or body piercing permitted.

### **HAIRSTYLES**

- Hairstyles are expected to be neat, tidy and sensible. Extreme styles and colours, as deemed unacceptable by Principal, are **NOT** permitted.
- If hair accessories are worn they must be in neutral colours. Hair braids, hair extensions and hair decorations are **NOT** permitted

### **SPECIFIC UNIFORM REGULATIONS FOR BOYS**

**JEWELLERY** - the **ONLY** jewellery permitted is:

- a small gold/silver stud or sleeper earring, one in each ear lobe
- No other facial or body piercing permitted
- One chain and one ring

### **HAIRSTYLES**

- Hairstyles are expected to be neat, tidy and sensible. Extreme styles and colours, as deemed unacceptable by Principal, are **NOT** permitted.
- Hair should not be cut more closely than 'No 3'
- 'train tracks' and similar effects are not allowed
- Boys **MUST** be clean shaven.

### **SPECIFIC REQUIREMENTS**

**All students must have:**

- School blazer [Blazers must be worn, not carried or kept in schoolbags]
- School clip-on tie with top button fastened
- Years 8-12 blue Trutex/Banner blouse/shirt
- Years 13 & 14 white Trutex/Banner blouse/shirt
- V-neck jumper (school regulation only)

**Girls' clothing:**

- Navy pleated skirt worn below the knee (school regulation only) **If a skirt is purchased and is shorter than the regulation length, parents will be required to change it for one of the correct length. (School suppliers have been informed of this policy.)**
- Plain black leather school shoes - heel height must not exceed 2.5cm; 'sling-backs', mules, boots, trainers, plimsolls and so on are not permitted
- Navy tights (Knee-length navy socks can be worn in warm weather provided that the skirt is worn below the knee.)

**Boys' clothing:**

- Plain black trousers
- Plain black leather shoes - boots, trainers, plimsolls and so on are not permitted
- Black socks

Tattoos are not permitted.

Excessive jewellery, hats, scarves etc that breach uniform regulations will be confiscated.

### **Optional outdoor clothing**

- **Scarf:** only the school scarf is acceptable
- **Outdoor jacket:** navy waterproof jacket with the school crest may be worn over, not instead of, the blazer; no other outdoor garment or 'fleece' will be permitted

## **PUPIL AND PARENT/GUARDIAN UNIFORM AGREEMENT**

Pupils and parents/guardians are required to make themselves aware of St Patrick's Academy Uniform Policy and Regulations.

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Financial assistance is available through the Education and Library Boards' Clothing Allowance Scheme for some pupils towards the cost of school uniform. The eligibility criteria are the same as those used for free school meals. Please contact the Principal's Secretary at St Patrick's Academy for information.

## **UNIFORM SUPPLIERS**

Carmel's, Irish St, Dungannon;  
DIGG, Irish St. Dungannon  
PE kit: Brendan Begley  
No 5, Lineside, Coalisland

Malachy Kelly's, Irish St, Dungannon;  
Frank McGirr's, Coalisland.  
Horace McMullan, Dungannon

Reviewed June 2016

To be reviewed June 2017