



School Uniform Policy

Responsible for policy:

Cardinal Wiseman Local Governing Body

Date of policy:

July 2026

Date approved by LGB:

July 2026

Date of review:

July 2027

Policy Status:

Good Practice

Chair of Academy Committee:

Ann Harkin



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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 Governing Body of the Academy appointed from time to time, as appropriate.
- v **'Chair'** means the Chair of the Board of the Directors or the Local Governing Body 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 Governing Body'** means the governing body of the school.
- ix **'Academy Committee Representatives'** means the governors appointed and elected to the Local Governing Body 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. (The blazer is a compulsory branded uniform item)
- Black trousers (no jeans or chinos — see illustration overleaf).
- **Years 7, 8 and 9** white school shirts (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- **Year 10 and 11** blue school shirts (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- School tie (The school tie is a compulsory branded uniform item)
- 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 guide on page 7).
- No baseball caps to be worn inside school buildings. They can be worn outside on sunny / hot days as a form of sun protection.
- Blazers should be worn to and from school.

5. Acceptable Uniform – Girls

Girls wear:

- Blazer - navy with school badge. (The blazer is a compulsory branded uniform item)
- 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, Lycra/satin style dance or flared yoga trousers**) — see guide on page 7.
- **Years 7, 8 and 9** white school shirts (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- **Year 10 and 11** blue school shirts (not fashion or sports). The collar should be buttoned and the shirt tucked in.
- School tie. (The school tie is a compulsory branded uniform item)
- Plain black tights (40 denier) or plain black/white ankle socks. **No 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, crocs, 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. (this is an optional branded item)
- A plain dark coloured coat
- **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
- One small nose stud no bigger than 2mm is permitted but no hoops or chains. This size is discreet for school.
- No other forms of facial piercings are permitted such as eyebrow or lip piercings.
- One chain – must be worn under school shirt.
- One flat ring permitted.
- Watch permitted –no smartwatches or smart glasses



- 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.
- Head coverings are not permitted unless worn for religious or medical reasons. This includes, but is not limited to, durags, bonnets, bandanas and similar items.
- 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.
- Students are not allowed to wear grillz across teeth.

7. Make-up/Tattoos

- Subtle make-up provided suitable for a school setting.
- No acrylic nails.
- No false eyelashes.
- No tattoos.

8. Hair

- In keeping with our traditional uniform, If students dye their hair, only natural colours should be used. Extreme or unnatural colours are not permitted.
- Extreme haircuts such as mohawks are not permitted.
- Exceptions: non-traditional styles will be at the principal's discretion.

Final decision is at the discretion of the Principal



9. Cardinal Wiseman Catholic School Uniform



MAIN SCHOOL UNIFORM

Item	Specification	Compulsory / Optional	Branded
 Navy school blazer	Navy with the school badge on the breast pocket. Must be purchased from school-approved supplier. Blazers should be worn to and from school.	Compulsory	
 Navy School V Neck Jumper	Optional - Official school jumper — navy blue with school logo	Optional	
 School Tie	School colour house tie. Not a clip-on tie	Compulsory	
 Shirt	Year 7, 8 and 9 White Shirt Year 10 and 11 Blue Shirt	Compulsory	
 Trousers (Boys/Girls)	Plain black, full length trousers. Available from any retailer. No jeans, cargos, leggings, loungewear, or tight fitting.	Compulsory	
 Skirt (Girls)	Black knee length pleated skirt (no tube, mini, split, wrap around, divided, tight or Lycra skirts)		
 Black Shoes	Black lace up or slip on shoes/ankle/shoe boots. (no logos, heavy boots, training shoes, canvas pumps/plimsolls or Velcro	Compulsory	
 Socks/Tights	Plain black, navy or grey socks. Plain Black tights. No over the knee socks		
 Coat	A plain dark coloured coat		



BRANDED ITEMS (1-4)

The blazer, tie and PE top are the school's three compulsory branded uniform items. The school optional v neck navy jumper is the fourth permitted branded item. This complies with the maximum of four branded items for secondary schools under the Children's Wellbeing and Schools Act 2026.

No other compulsory item carries school branding.



PE AND SPORTS UNIFORM

All Students



Navy Sports T shirt with school badge.



Navy Sports shorts - available from any retailer



Navy tracksuit bottoms



Multi-purpose/cross trainers.



Shin pads/gum shield/football boots for boys unless girls take part in extracurricular football.



Swimming trunks or shorts (boys),
one-piece swimsuit (girls).
Towel



JEWELLERY, HAIR AND APPEARANCE

Jewellery	- Students may wear one pair small stud earrings - One small nose stud no bigger than 2mm is permitted but no hoops or chains. - No other forms of facial piercings are permitted such as eyebrow or lip piercings. - One chain – must be worn under school shirt. - One flat ring permitted. - Watch permitted –no smartwatches or smart glasses - 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. - Students are not allowed to wear grillz across teeth.
Make up and Tattoos	- Subtle make-up will be permitted provided suitable for school setting. - No acrylic nails. - No false eyelashes. - No tattoos.
Hair	- In keeping with our traditional uniform, we promote traditional hair styles. If students dye their hair, only natural colours should be used. Extreme or unnatural colours are not permitted. - Extreme haircuts such as mohawks are not permitted. - Exceptions: non-traditional styles will be at the principal's discretion.



10. Dress Standards for Girls

Please note that the skirt needs to be of an appropriate length – see guide on page 7. Trousers should be black and of acceptable width (bootcut). **NB — No jeans, leggings, jeggings, chinos, skinny trousers, Lycra/satin style dance or flared yoga trousers. No Lycra/tube style skirts.**

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.

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 guide on page 7.

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 guide on page 7.

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

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.

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

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 guide on page 7.

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, and canvas pumps/plimsolls.

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 guide on page 7.

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.

14. PE Kit

We ask pupils to change into a kit for PE:

- Navy Rugby jersey.
- Plain navy Rugby socks.
- Navy T shirt for PE with Cardinal Wiseman badge.
- Navy shorts.
- Tight cycling shorts are not permitted in any length
- Navy tracksuit bottoms.
- Shin pads/gum shield/football boots for boys unless girls take part in extracurricular football.
- Multi-purpose/cross trainers.
- 3G Moulded boots or astro turf trainers can only be used on the MUGA pitch
- Swimming trunks or shorts (boys), one-piece swimsuit (girls).
- Towel.
- Gum shield

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.

The school aims to keep the cost of PE kit to a minimum. Most items can be purchased from any high street or online retailers

15. Links to other policies

- TRCA Relationship & Positive Behaviour Policy [TRCA-Relationship-and-Positive-Behaviour-Policy.pdf](#)
- Sixth Form Dress Code [Dress Code](#)
- TRCA Mobile & Smart Devices Policy (to be added once approved)

16. Review of this policy

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

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