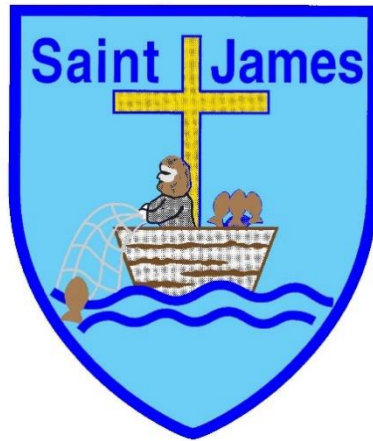


# **Altham St. James' CE Primary School**



## **School uniform policy**

## Contents

1. Aims .....	2
2. Vision.....	3
3. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010 .....	2
4. Limiting the cost of school uniform .....	3
5. Expectations for school uniform .....	4
6. Expectations for our school community .....	5
7. Monitoring arrangements.....	6

---

## 1. Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform

## 2. Vision

### *Living our lives as Jesus wants us to*

Our children will learn to love themselves and to embrace the differences in our society. Developing the whole child is extremely important to us. We will endeavor to live out the teaching: ***“Love each other as I have loved you.” John 15:12***

Altham St James' is a small, church school much like a family, with a child-centered approach. We work closely with family, friends and members of the church community to embed the love of God through living and learning together. We want our children to be the best they can be and believe they can make a difference because we have faith that: ***“Everything is possible with God.” Matthew 19:26***

It is our intent that children will develop a love of learning through exciting, challenging and stimulating experiences enriched by visits and visitors.

It is our mission to:

- Be the best that we can be
- Respect the world and everyone in it
- Love, forgive and reconcile

## 3. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The [Equality Act 2010](#) prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with our Headteacher, Mrs. C. Woods on 01282 772174, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests.

#### 4. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory [guidance](#) from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

The school will regularly consult with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, ensuring their views are considered before implementation.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible, by only asking that the blue and yellow check skirt is worn. All other items can be worn without the school logo and can be purchased in local supermarkets
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties (which are not compulsory)
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

## 5. Expectations for school uniform

We aim to ensure that our uniform is comfortable, easy to wear; readily available and those who wear it, do so with pride. It also helps to create a sense of belonging and shared pride. We ask all children and families to support our uniform code.

### 5.1 Our school's uniform

Details of our school uniform (required) are:

- A branded/ unbranded royal blue sweatshirt or royal blue cardigan.
- A pale blue branded/ unbranded polo shirt
- Grey trousers or shorts, blue and yellow checked skirt or pinafore
- Black sensible school shoes
- Grey or white socks or tights

Summer (optional)

- Blue and white gingham dress

Expectations for PE:

- Plain white T Shirt
- Black or blue shorts
- Black plimsolls (pumps)

Expectations for Swimming (Y3 – Y6):

- A swimming costume, swimming trunks
- A swimming cap
- A towel

Expectations for jewellery and hairstyles

- For reasons of safety, children are not allowed to wear jewellery, other than 1 pair of stud earrings which must be taken out or covered with plasters/ tape during PE lessons. This is for safety reasons.
- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted.

Expectations for shoes, bags and coats

- Shoes must be sensible and black.
- A branded school book bag is to be used (this is being given out to parents in Reception Class for free and can also be purchased from the school office for £6.00).
- Suitable coats to be worn for the appropriate season.

## 5.2 Where to purchase it

- Parents can purchase the majority of our school uniform from any local retailer, such as supermarket clothes sections etc.
- However, the branded jumper/cardigan/ polo shirt (with the school logo) and school skirts and pinafores can be purchased from Whittaker's Schoolwear which is available inside the Oswaldtwistle Mills complex. If you have any queries, or want to check before you travel, contact details are tel. 01254 871025 or email [Accrington-orders@whittakersschoolwear.co.uk](mailto:Accrington-orders@whittakersschoolwear.co.uk)
- One of our parents Mrs. Briggs, kindly runs a preloved uniform Facebook page. [Altham St James uniform secondhand | Groups | Facebook](#) There is a quantity of good quality items, so please take a look. We also regularly set out the spare uniform in the school yard for parents to take. Information about preloved uniform availability will be regularly communicated via newsletters and the school website to ensure all families are aware of this cost-saving resource.
- Should you be struggling to purchase any of the school uniform due to financial hardship, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## 6. Expectations for our school community

### 6.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

- On the school premises
- Travelling to and from school
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required)

### 6.2 Parents and carers

Parents are encouraged to raise any uniform-related concerns promptly with the Headteacher. The school will provide clear, timely responses and work collaboratively to find solutions, ensuring disputes are resolved without escalation.

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean
- Clearly labelled with the child's name
- In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact the Head teacher, Mrs. C. Woods on 01282 772174, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics
- The cost of the uniform

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

### **6.3 Staff**

Staff will apply the uniform policy sensitively, particularly when financial hardship or equality considerations are evident. Supportive conversations will precede any formal follow-up to ensure understanding and resolve concerns amicably.

### **6.4 Governors**

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and pupils
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The governing body will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

## **7. Monitoring arrangements**

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years by Mrs. Woods, it will be approved by the governing body

Reviewed January 2026