Leigh St Mary's Church of England Primary School
School Uniform Policy

Review: October 2027

Our Mission

INSPIRE: To be the best that I can be
BELIEVE: To believe I can make a difference for good in this world
ACHIEVE: To know I have the roots to grow and the wings to fly

At Leigh St Mary's Church of England Primary School, we promote a life-long love of learning. Through enriching, exciting learning opportunities and a creative curriculum, children are given the foundations to flourish. Our Christian values are at the heart of our school and provide us with a culture of happiness, respect and trust.

We aim to promote a sense of belonging within a warm, nurturing environment where children feel safe and valued. We celebrate cultural diversity and believe that every child should have the opportunity to be the best that they can be.

Through our encouragement of good manners, kindness and friendship we aim to ensure our children display the values of good citizenship. We hope to instil in our children an 'I can' attitude and to provide our children with the tools to succeed in an ever-changing world.

Our Theologically Rooted Christian Vision

Our School Bible Verse from Colossians 2 Verses 6 and 7

6 As you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so continue to live in him. 7 Keep your roots deep in him and have your lives built on him. Be strong in the faith, just as you were taught. And always be thankful.

At Leigh St Mary's Church of England Primary School, our vision is to be a flourishing Christian community where everyone is inspired to learn, believe in their potential and achieve all they are called to be.

Rooted in the love and grace of God, revealed through Jesus Christ and inspired by Colossians 2:6–7, we seek to ensure that every member of our school family is "rooted and built up in Him", growing in faith, wisdom and character.

Guided by our Christian values of friendship, respect and kindness, we aspire to nurture a community where love shapes relationships, everyone is valued and each person knows they belong. We aim to inspire hope, encourage resilience and develop courageous learners who face challenges with confidence, perseverance and an 'I can' attitude.

Through our motto of Inspire, Believe, Achieve, we strive to enable every child to flourish spiritually, academically, socially and emotionally. We seek to equip them to live life in all its fullness, serving others with compassion, integrity and joy and making a positive difference in God's world.

1. Aims

At Leigh St Mary's, our uniform helps children feel part of our school family. We want it to be comfortable, practical, affordable and suitable for learning and play. Children's belonging and access to education must never depend on their family's ability to buy uniform.

This policy explains what children need, how Leigh St Mary's keeps costs manageable, the support available and how we respond fairly to individual circumstances. Our approach reflects friendship, respect and kindness and works alongside the Positive Behaviour and Equality policies.

2. Equality comfort and individual needs

Leigh St Mary's will comply with the Equality Act 2010 and Human Rights Act 1998. We will consider the effect of uniform requirements on pupils, including matters relating to disability, sex, race, religion or belief and gender reassignment, and make reasonable adjustments where required.

The uniform choices below are available to all pupils. We will avoid rigid stereotypes and keep comparable choices affordable. Equality does not mean every item must have an identical price; we will consider total cost and any unfair disadvantage.

Families can speak privately to Mrs Wilkinson, Pastoral Manager, or Mrs Watson, Headteacher, about sensory needs, medical requirements, disability, religious dress, swimwear or other individual circumstances. Children can also ask a trusted adult for help. Support will not depend on a child making a formal written request.

Leigh St Mary's will listen, consider reasonable alternatives and record agreed arrangements where appropriate. These may include different fabrics or fastenings, footwear, a comfortable alternative to a tie, or changes to PE clothing. We will seek relevant advice where needed and explain decisions respectfully.

3. Affordability and branded items

Leigh St Mary's will have regard to DfE statutory guidance on uniform costs and comply with the legal limit of no more than three compulsory branded items for primary pupils. The limit covers uniform and PE kit across the school year, including lessons, clubs and events.

The required branded items are: (1) a red logo jumper OR cardigan; (2) the navy blue and red logo PE top; and (3) the school blue/red striped tie. A choice between the jumper and cardigan counts as one requirement; families do not need both.

Branding on the PE jacket is optional. A plain navy jacket is equally acceptable. A logo jacket is not required for PE, clubs, visits or representation of Leigh St Mary's. The logo book bag is also optional, with a suitable generic bag accepted.

We will keep optional branded items to a minimum, permit affordable generic alternatives for the remaining items and avoid extra specialist kit for ordinary school activities. We will consider durability, replacement needs, washing, footwear and the overall annual cost, as well as individual purchase prices.

Leigh St Mary's will avoid unnecessary changes and consult families and pupils about significant proposals. Changes will be communicated with sufficient notice and sensible arrangements for using existing clothing. Our website will distinguish required items from optional purchases.

4. School uniform and PE kit

Everyday uniform

Item	Requirement and permitted choices
Jumper or cardigan	Red Leigh St Mary's logo jumper OR cardigan. Only one style is required; families may choose.
Skirt dress trousers or shorts	Plain grey skirt, pinafore dress, trousers or shorts. Generic items from any retailer are acceptable.
Shirt	Plain white full-buttoned shirt. No school logo required.
Tie	School blue/red striped tie. Elasticated, clip-on or Velcro fastening may be used for comfort and independence, subject to safe use.
Summer option	Red and white checked summer dress or culottes may be worn in the Summer Term. Widely available generic designs are accepted. A tie is not required with the summer dress.
Footwear	Black school shoes suitable for learning and play. There is no required brand. Agreed medical, disability or other individual adjustments apply.

PE kit

Item	Requirement and permitted choices
PE top	Navy blue Leigh St Mary's logo sports top.
Shorts or jogging bottoms	Plain red or navy shorts or plain navy jogging bottoms appropriate to the activity and weather. No school logo required.
Warm layer	Plain navy PE jacket or suitable navy sports warm layer for colder weather. The Leigh St Mary's logo PE jacket is an optional alternative.
Trainers	Comfortable, secure trainers suitable for the activity, with non-marking soles for indoor use. No particular brand is required.

Families will be told which days require PE kit and whether children should arrive wearing it. Swimming and other activity arrangements will be communicated in advance, with affordable choices and individual needs considered.

4. Practical clothing and safety arrangements

Bags coats and labelling

The Leigh St Mary's logo book bag is a preferred, optional choice because it fits classroom storage. Families may use a practical generic alternative suitable for the available space. There is no compulsory school-branded coat or bag. Children should have weather-appropriate clothing; school will allow sensible adaptations during hot, cold or adverse weather.

Please label clothing and belongings clearly with your child's name and help them arrive in clothing that is clean and in reasonable condition wherever possible. If washing, replacement or access to suitable clothing is difficult, please speak to the office. Leigh St Mary's will offer support discreetly.

Hair jewellery and PE safety

Hair should be managed safely for learning and activities. Long hair should be secured when needed for safety or hygiene. Leigh St Mary's respects natural hair textures, protective styles and cultural or religious practices. Expectations will not unfairly target a pupil's race or other protected characteristic.

Small, simple ear studs may be worn. Jewellery and accessories will be considered in relation to safety, including relevant religious or medical needs. For PE, earrings should be removed where possible. Where removal is not possible, staff will assess the actual activity and agree a safe arrangement; covering an earring with tape does not automatically make participation safe. Parents should discuss new piercings or other concerns with the class teacher before PE.

Staff will consider safe tie, hood and drawstring arrangements during physical activity. Safety decisions must be proportionate and individual. Where a particular item creates a risk, staff will seek a practical way for the child to continue learning and participating safely.

5. Free uniform and our termly Swap Shop

Leigh St Mary's provides free, clean second-hand and nearly new uniform. Families are welcome to ask the school office whenever they need items; help is not limited to an event date. Availability depends on the sizes and items donated, and staff will discuss alternatives if a suitable item is not in stock.

We also hold a Uniform Swap Shop each term. All families are welcome, and there is no requirement to bring or donate an item in order to receive uniform. Details will be shared through school communications. Donations of clean, reusable uniform are welcome through the office.

If the cost of any item is a concern, please speak privately to Mrs Wilkinson or Mrs Watson. Leigh St Mary's will work with you sensitively. No child should miss school because uniform is unavailable, unaffordable or being washed.

Buying new uniform

Logo uniform is available from Rainbow Uniforms on Bradshawgate, Leigh. Generic items may be bought from a wide range of retailers. Families are free to use second-hand uniform that meets the specification. Please check the latest school information before purchasing optional items.

https://www.rainbowuniforms.co.uk/?srsltid=AYCX9vIfuhXj_-kNZ8R5aN4nx6NHUKz6XXTwfqFVAK5pckiAuQYKNjDU

6. Working together

Children and families

We ask children to wear the agreed uniform and care for their belongings, with support appropriate to their age and needs. Uniform is normally worn at school and when travelling to and from school, and for visits or representation where families have been told it is required. Agreed exceptions and reasonable adjustments apply.

Parents and carers can help by checking the published list, labelling items and telling Leigh St Mary's promptly about difficulties. There is no expectation to purchase several copies of branded items or optional extras. Non-uniform days will be inclusive: participation will not depend on making a donation or buying a costume.

A supportive response to difficulties

Staff will speak to children and families kindly and privately about uniform concerns. They will first consider affordability, washing, lost items, sensory or medical needs, religion or belief, and other circumstances. Practical help, temporary alternatives and reasonable adjustments will be considered before further action.

Children will not be shamed, publicly singled out or denied food, necessary support or ordinary learning because of financial hardship or a disability-related need. Leigh St Mary's will not send a child home merely to change uniform or use informal exclusion. Persistent concerns will be referred to Mrs Watson, who will agree an individual response under the Positive Behaviour Policy and applicable guidance.

Governors and suppliers

The governing body is responsible for the uniform policy and will ensure that requirements are affordable, inclusive, practical and safe. It will consider family and pupil views, monitor the branded-item limit and review the overall cost.

Leigh St Mary's will prioritise value for money in supplier arrangements. Single-supplier contracts will be avoided unless justified by regular competitive tendering that secures best value; where used, they should be re-tendered at least every five years. Relevant procurement law must be followed. Governors will check price, quality, durability, service and second-hand availability and avoid arrangements that increase costs for families.

7. Review concerns and linked policies

The governing body will review and approve this policy annually, with implementation led by Mrs Watson. Earlier review may follow legal changes, supply issues or significant feedback. The published version will show the approval date and any agreed transition arrangements.

Families should raise concerns with Mrs Watson or Mrs Coop. Leigh St Mary's will listen and seek a fair solution. Unresolved concerns can be raised through the Complaints Policy. This policy links to the Positive Behaviour Policy, Equality Policy and objectives, Accessibility Plan, Anti-Bullying Policy, SEND Policy and health and safety arrangements.

8. Example Uniform Items:






