**St. Mary’s N.S.**

**School Uniform Policy**

1. The School Uniform Policy is an integral part of the Behaviour Policy adopted in St. Mary’s National School.
2. Parents are asked to make every effort to ensure that their son/daughter is equipped with the correct school uniform.
3. Parents are asked to make every reasonable effort to ensure that their son/daughter maintains a high standard of uniform dress.

**Rationale for School Uniform**

1. A school uniform reflects a sense of belonging to a school community and therefore it is our aim that each pupil would take pride in their appearance in full school uniform.
2. Parents and visitors to the school agree that children look smart and neat in their school uniform.
3. School uniform is about Equality – all pupils are equal and as such are valued equally and treated equally.
4. Parents find school uniform quite economical.
5. School uniform removes the peer pressure to wear designer labels and other expensive clothing and removes the pressure to keep up with fashion trends.
6. School uniform enables our pupils to take pride in their school and to have a sense of belonging.
7. A school uniform supports positive behaviour.
8. A school uniform helps create a school identity.
9. A school uniform establishes a code of dress appropriate to the image St. Mary’s N.S. wishes to present.
10. A school uniform reinforces a pride of appearance among the pupils in the school.
11. The wearing of uniform indicates acceptance of shared goals and support for the value St. Mary’s N.S. seeks to achieve.
12. A common uniform means less distraction from learning in the classroom.

**Girls**

* Navy pleated tartan skirt or Navy uniform trousers
* Red polo shirt
* School Uniform Jumper with School Crest
* White/navy socks & tights in winter

**Boys**

* Navy uniform trousers
* Red polo shirt
* School Uniform Jumper with School Crest

**P.E. Uniform for Boys and Girls**

* Plain Navy tracksuit bottoms (no stripes or embellishments allowed)
* Plain Navy tracksuit top
* Red polo shirt
* Runners

**Note:**

* Plain navy tracksuit bottoms may be worn with the rest of the normal school uniform also.
* The tracksuit or tracksuit bottoms are not acceptable uniform every day. Outside of P.E. days it may only be worn in the event of an emergency or on days/events specified by the School Principal.

**Seasonal Variations**

* Pupils may wear shorts in extremely warm weather.
* Pupils may wear school polo shirt in extremely warm weather.

**Hair**

* All students are expected to keep their hair in a neat and clean condition.
* Long hair must be tied back to minimise outbreaks of headlice within classrooms.

**Labelling:**

* Parents should ensure that all items are adequately labelled with their child’s details.

A pen or formal label can be used for this purpose.

**Lost property:**

* A lost property basket is located outside the G.P room.
* Pupils or parents must seek permission from the school secretary before searching the lost property basket.
* Unclaimed lost property is sent to charity shops at the end of the school year.

**Dress and Appearance – Implementation and Sanctions**

* Staff will routinely check uniforms.
* Students are expected to wear their full uniform every day without modification. If the dress code is not adhered to an explanatory note will be required.
* The school tracksuit is to be worn on P.E. day only.
* The uniform is designed so that parents can avail of generic items such as shirts, pants and jumpers in the major stores and from the local suppliers.
* Pupils may **NOT** combine the PE uniform with the formal school uniform on non P.E. days.
* Pupils are expected to keep their uniform clean and tidy.
* Pupils are expected to wear their full school uniform every day regardless of how much time they have left to attend the school.

**Uniforms are available from:**

* Pauline’s Fashions, Ballinagh, Co. Cavan. Phone: (049) 4337247