



School Uniform Policy

Policy Reviewed:	April 2025
Next review date:	July 2026

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Statement of Intent

St Levan school does not have a formal uniform. We believe that allowing pupils to wear their own clothes supports their individuality, self-expression, and comfort. We also recognise that in a modern, inclusive learning environment, it is important that pupils feel respected and free to reflect their identity within the boundaries of appropriate dress for school.

We believe that pupils learn most effectively and achieve their best outcomes when they are comfortable, confident, and able to be themselves, while dressing in a way that is respectful of the school setting and conducive to learning.

For the purposes of this policy, pupil "appearance" includes:

- Clothing worn to school, including for PE and outdoor activities
- Hairstyles and headwear
- Jewellery and other accessories
- Cosmetics such as makeup and nail polish

This policy outlines how the school ensures that our approach to appearance is fair, inclusive, and reflective of our values and community. It supports a culture of high expectations, respect, and inclusivity without requiring a specific uniform.

In developing and updating this policy, we have:

- Engaged with pupils and parents on matters relating to dress and appearance
- Considered the impact of clothing choices on groups with protected characteristics as defined in the Equality Act 2010
- Taken into account comfort, self-expression, and sensory needs
- Ensured our approach allows for flexibility in different weather conditions
- Ensured that expectations are practical, age-appropriate, and inclusive of pupils who walk, cycle or travel actively to school
- Chosen a PE kit approach that is practical, comfortable, and affordable
- Made this policy accessible and easy to understand for all families

1. Legal Framework

This policy has due regard to all relevant legislation and guidance, including:

- Human Rights Act 1998
- Education and Inspections Act 2006
- Equality Act 2010
- Education Act 2011
- The UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR)
- Data Protection Act 2018
- DfE (2021) 'School Admissions Code'
- DfE (2024) 'School uniforms: guidance for schools'
- Equality and Human Rights Commission (2022) 'Preventing hair discrimination in schools'

This policy operates in conjunction with:

- Complaints Procedures Policy
- Behaviour Policy
- Pupil Equality, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Policy

2. Roles and Responsibilities

1.1.1 Governing Board

- Establishes expectations for pupil dress that reflect the school's values.
- Ensures expectations are inclusive and accessible to all pupils.
- Considers the views of pupils and families in policy review.
- Ensures compliance with equality legislation.

1.1.2 Headteacher

- Oversees consistent and fair application of this policy.
- Supports staff in implementation.
- Provides discretion and exemptions where necessary.
- Engages with the school community regarding appearance matters.

1.1.3 Staff

- Model appropriate dress.
- Support pupils in understanding expectations.
- Address issues respectfully and consistently.

1.1.4 Parents

- Ensure children attend in clothing suitable for learning and participation.

- Communicate any specific clothing needs or concerns.

1.1.5 Pupils

- Dress in a way that respects the learning environment.
- Care for their clothing and belongings.
- Engage in conversations about appearance respectfully.

3. Cost Principles

- No specific branded or specialist clothing is required.
- Pupils may wear their own clothes, as long as they are suitable for school activities.
- The school recommends comfortable, practical clothing appropriate for play, learning, and the weather.
- When particular clothing is required for trips, forest school, or PE, the school ensures it is affordable and gives clear notice to families.
- Families are encouraged to use pre-loved clothing sources.

4. Equality Principles

The school ensures that its approach to pupil appearance does not discriminate on the basis of any protected characteristic. We aim for an inclusive culture in which pupils feel respected and able to express their identity.

The school:

- Supports pupils with SEND and sensory needs to wear clothing that suits their comfort.
- Welcomes cultural and religious dress.
- Supports gender expression and identity.
- Listens to pupil and parent feedback and addresses concerns on a case-by-case basis.

All appearance-related matters are managed with sensitivity and in line with our broader inclusion policies.

5. Physical Education (PE) and Activity Wear

While there is no formal PE kit, pupils are expected to wear suitable, practical clothing and footwear on PE days. Guidance includes:

- Comfortable sportswear such as t-shirts, leggings, joggers, shorts or sweatshirts.
- Supportive trainers or sports shoes.
- No jewellery during PE for safety reasons.

Where families have difficulty providing suitable clothing for PE, the school will work with them to ensure pupils can participate fully.

6. Monitoring and Review

This policy will be reviewed **bi-annually** by the headteacher and governing board, with input from pupils, families, and staff. Any updates will be shared with the school community.

The next review date is **July 2026**

