

Uniform and Appearance Policy 2025-2026

Catshill Middle School



Reviewed: July 2025

Ratified:

Next Review: July 2026

Ethos

At Catshill Middle School, we have an agreed school uniform, which is made clear to families on our website and prospectus. We believe that uniform fosters a sense of identity and belonging and sets a tone for the academic and educational expectations of the school to be 'kind, safe, respectful and ready' to learn.

Policy

At Catshill, we have agreed to follow the non-statutory government guidance and to have a Uniform Policy. This policy outlines the expectations around appearance and the fair approach we take to managing the sourcing and funding of uniforms.

School Uniform

All children are expected to wear school uniform as it helps create a sense of identity and belonging to our school. With our core expectation of being ready to learn, wearing the correct uniform is crucial to this being effective for your child. We request that all children show they are 'ready' to be part of our Catshill School community by wearing the correct uniform.

Our expectations are as follows:

- Green jumper or cardigan with the school logo
- White blouse or shirt
- Plain black, knee length, smart tailored skirt (not a tube skirt).
- Plain black tailored trousers or tailored shorts. (No leggings)
- In summer, there is an option to wear a green checked/striped summer dress
- Socks should be white, grey or black in colour

If a child does not come to school in their full school uniform they will be offered a piece of replacement uniform. Any pupil refusing to wear a piece of replacement uniform will be dealt with according to the Positive Behaviour for Learning Policy.



Jewellery and Hair Accessories:

Hair - We understand that individuality may be shown through one's haircut, however all hair should be of a natural colour. Pupil's whose hair is not a natural colour will be sanctioned in line with our Positive Behaviour Policy. It is essential that long hair, shoulder length or longer, should be tied back in lessons such as Science, Design Technology and PE for Health & Safety reasons..

Jewellery - Only a single ear piercing is to be worn when in school and this should be a small metal stud. In addition, a watch may be worn but no other jewellery is permitted. Smart watches may be worn, but must not be connected to any devices or the internet. Any pupils using their smart watch for anything other than telling the time will have the device confiscated and will remain in the office until the end of the day. A sanction will be given in line with our Positive Behaviour Policy.

Makeup - Makeup should be subtle and of a natural appearance. Any pupil whose makeup is deemed to not be of a subtle and natural appearance will be assisted by a member of the pastoral team to remove their makeup.

Nails should be kept short and any nail varnish should be of a subtle and natural colour. Long false nails, or nails that are coloured, are not acceptable. Staff will test the length of nails by looking at the palm side of a pupil's hand, to see if they are visible at the end of their fingertips. A member of the pastoral team will assist in their removal or parents will be called to take their child to a salon to have them removed.

Eyelashes should also be of a natural length and colour, fake eyelashes are not permitted to be worn in school and will be asked to be removed. Pupils who refuse to remove their makeup will be sanctioned in line with the Positive Behaviour Policy.

PE Kit

At times throughout the academic year when your child has P.E lessons, they will be permitted to come into school wearing their P.E kit. Our expectations are as follows:

- Black and green logo'd shirt and zipped top
- Black plain shorts or black plain leggings / tracksuit bottoms
- Training shoes and football boots

The decision to allow pupils to wear their P.E kit will be made by the head of P.E with regards to the sports being undertaken during that half term and communication will be made via ePraise to parents.

Footwear

Footwear should be completely black and smart. These should be with a small heel or no heel at all. Boots and training shoes are not acceptable footwear and the photos below will help show you the expected shoes.

ACCEPTABLE

Black polishable school shoes only.



UNACCEPTABLE

No canvas, trainers, pumps, plimssoles, Vans, Converse, walking boots or boots.
Shoes must be flat with no platform or heel and must be below the ankle.



*For any child who is unable to tie laces, strongly consider Velcro for safety.

Recycling and Reusing

Our pastoral team keeps a large, clean, constant stock of used uniform in all sizes and these are available to any child who loses an item of uniform and to support our families who require replacements due to circumstances. We wash and store the uniform on site. Where families, disadvantaged or not, require a hand with items of uniform, they are supported in a sensible and discrete way. We also feel our approach is kinder to the environment and reduces waste.



Religion and Beliefs

The school will always be sensitive to the needs of different cultures, races and religions and will act reasonably in accommodating these, without compromising safety or discipline within the school. We believe any concerns in this regard can be addressed through dialogue and understanding.

Non Compliance

Where there are breaches of the school Uniform and Appearance Policy, which are not based on fair or reasonable factors or concerns, the school will follow the Positive Behaviour Policy in a fair and proportionate way. No pupil will be penalised for decisions beyond their control.

We ask that any time a pupil is not able to meet the criteria in this Uniform and Appearance Policy that they are provided with a note from home explaining why.

Closing Statement

At Catshill we feel that the green colours and school logo are part of our school ethos and central to our identity as a 'family' of staff, pupils, parents and Governors, working together as a team ready to achieve

Thank you for your support in helping our children feel a sense of belonging and pride in our Catshill community.

