



Tel/Fax: 061 – 51 59 27  
Email: [info@smnslimerick.ie](mailto:info@smnslimerick.ie)  
Website: [www.smnslimerick.ie](http://www.smnslimerick.ie)  
Uimh. Rolla: 12854 S

## Dress Code

### Introductory Statement

Saint Michael's National School aims to maintain a child-friendly learning environment, where all pupils are free to pass through the various stages of their development without any unnecessary pressures.

The Board appreciates that, through their chosen attire, pupils may express their individuality and confidence. However, we request that all Parents/Guardians ensure that the clothing their children wear to school complies with the following guidelines.

### Rationale

The policy was drafted to address the following identified needs:

- **Health and Safety** – Children sometimes wear items of clothing/ accessories that are not safe in a school environment or for specific subjects e.g. P.E.
- **Distraction during class** – Children sometimes wear accessories that are a distraction for themselves or for their classmates.

### Policy

- Saint Michael's National School has no school uniform. Children are permitted to wear clothes that suit their own personality, tastes and preferences, provided they fall within the terms of this policy.
- This policy applies to all children of the school regardless of age, gender, religious or cultural background.
- Following consultation with staff, the Board of Management, parents and children in the school, we request that the following items are not worn in school:
  - items of clothing that could cause a child to trip on the yard or during P.E. e.g. flip-flops, very long skirts
  - Clothes that result in underwear being visible
  - high-heel shoes, heeled shoes and shoes with studs e.g. football boots
  - dangling jewellery (stud earrings and watches are allowed), false nails, make-up.
  - Shorts should be of an appropriate length if worn without tights.
- No articles of clothing bearing slogans which could cause offence to other members of the school community should be worn e.g. slogans with profanities or adult content
- Children should tie their hair back when it is long enough to do so to prevent the spread of head lice and to help keep hair out of their eyes.
- Sprays i.e. hairspray, body spray etc. should not be brought into school or to the swimming pool. These are unsafe when inhaled by students or adults with certain medical conditions
- Coats – Children require warm coats in winter or on cold days so they will be able to play outside.

- During periods of hot weather, sun protection should be applied before coming to school, children should bring a hat to school. Clothing can be an excellent barrier to UV rays.
- Parents ensure that children wear clothes that they are able to manage. It is important that the choice of clothes is such that they are able to go to the toilet on their own, able to tie their shoes, able to button up their jackets, etc. Where additional needs provide barriers to independence, the class teacher will work with the parents to put supports in place.
- Parents ensure that for Physical Education (P.E.) and sports activities/events, children wear clothes that allow free movement. Class teachers will inform parents of P.E. days.
- Class teachers will inform parents what day their child completes art and parents are reminded that it is possible that the children may get paint or glue on their clothes on these days. Parents are encouraged to provide an old shirt /tshirt that can be worn over their clothes for art lessons.
- Parents are requested to label coats, hats, scarves etc. The school does not take responsibility for any lost clothes. If a child has lost any items of clothing, parents/guardians can check the lost property box. At the end of each school year, the clothes left behind in the lost property box are donated to charity.
- Class teachers will work closely with both children and their parents, when needed, to support them in implementing the dress code. Teachers will use SPHE lessons to reinforce and discuss the dress code as appropriate.

#### Roles and Responsibility

The following have particular responsibilities for aspects of the policy as outlined in the document:

- Parents
- Children
- Staff

#### Implementation Date


The policy will be put in place following ratification by the Board of Management.

#### Timetable for Review

The policy will be reviewed every 2 years or as appropriate.

#### Ratification & Communication

This policy was ratified by the Board of Management on: 29<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2022

Signed:   
Chairperson