



De Lisle College

Uniform Policy

Approved by:

Governing Body

Date: March 2025

Last reviewed on:

April 2025

Next review due by:

April 2026

Our mission

At De Lisle we are rooted and grounded in God's love. Each student receives the highest quality Catholic education and knows that they are loved deeply by Jesus Christ.

- All students experience the Love of Jesus Christ every day.
- Everyone is given the Opportunity to grow.
- Everyone Values themselves and each other by 'doing what is right, not what is easy' in the words of our school motto.
- Above all, we will grow actively in our faith by seeking a personal Encounter with Jesus Christ, so that we bear witness to the good news and to the teachings of the Church.
- We all Serve our neighbours, near and far, as missionary disciples.

Aims

This policy aims to:

- Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers.
- Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010.
- Clarify our expectations for school uniform.

Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- Give all students the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender.
- Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back).
- Allow all students to style their hair in a way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable and supports their cultural background and religion.
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons.
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious clothing.

Limiting the cost of school uniform

The school is mindful that deprivation exists and seeks to limit the amount of school specific uniform items that need to be purchased. We ensure uniform is affordable and accessible in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

We will make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost.
- Provides value for money for parents/carers.

We will do this by:

- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible.
- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties.
- Avoiding specific requirements for items students could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes.
- Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school uniform can act as a social leveler.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities.

- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents, of any changes.
- Consulting parents and students on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.
- Supporting parents by using part of the Pupil Premium allocation to purchase essential items of uniform.

Expectations for school uniform

Students

Wearing school uniform helps to promote the ethos of the school, provides a sense of belonging and identity, and sets an appropriate tone for education. Students are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times with care and pride, including:

- On the school premises.
- Travelling to and from school.
- At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school (if required).

Parents are also expected to contact the senior leadership or pastoral team if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

Parents and carers

Parents and carers can support by making sure their child has the correct uniform and PE kit, and that every item is:

- Clean.
- Clearly labelled with the child's name.
- In good condition.

Parents and carers are reminded that:

- Variation of school uniform is often attempted by students who try to reassure their parents that "all students do it". Please ignore such reports unless backed up by an official school letter or email.
- In emergencies, when obliged to send your child to school wearing incorrect clothing, a written note of explanation is necessary.

Parents are also expected to contact the senior leadership or pastoral team if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- Their child's protected characteristics.
- The cost of the uniform.

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

- Resolved locally.
- Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy.

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

Clarification on items of uniform and PE kit can be found on the school website:

<https://www.delisle.org.uk/parents/uniform>

Staff

Staff will closely monitor students to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any students and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply and will follow up in accordance with the behaviour system if the issue is not resolved.

If a student attends school dressed inappropriately, the school reserves the right to place the student in the BIU until the issue has been rectified and our expectations have been met. Students are liable to sanction after leaving standing assembly and throughout the school day if their uniform is not worn correctly.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a student not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation and consult with a member of the senior leadership or pastoral team for advice.

School branded items

- Black school blazer with school badge
- School tie
- De Lisle tartan school skirt (knee length)
- PE 1/4 zip top (optional)
- PE full zip rain jacket (optional)

Non-branded items

Uniform

White shirt buttoned fully to the neck

Black school uniform trousers - no skinny trousers, jeans, flared trousers or leggings

Optional plain black v-neck jumper or cardigan (no rounded necks) which must be worn with a black school blazer

Plain black socks (above the ankle and below the knee) or black tights

Footwear should be all black shoes (no boots) without visible logos, in line with the expectations on the school website

PE

White t-shirt or polo shirt

Black sports shorts or skort (minimum mid-thigh in length)

Black sports leggings (durable)

Plain black underarmour/baselayer trousers, t-shirt or long-sleeve top (worn underneath t-shirt/polo shirt)

Trainers (any colour)

Swimming shorts/trunks/one-piece costume for swimming (any colour)

School kit is provided to students taking part in fixtures and competitions for the college.

Jewellery & Hairstyles

- Hair colour should be within the range of natural hair colouring (no bright colours and no extreme styles)
- Hair styles should be moderate and appropriate for school as agreed by the headteacher. No extreme hairstyles.
- Hair accessories, including coloured braids, must be natural colours
- Jewellery should be restricted to:
 - **1 stud only** in each earlobe
 - Discreet makeup
 - French manicures that match natural colours are allowed
 - Facial hair should be neat and trimmed

Additional Items

- Long, acrylic, false and biab nails are not allowed due to health and safety reasons
- Scarves, bandanas, woollen hats and gloves may be worn in extreme weather conditions outside. Coats, scarves, hats, bandanas and gloves are NOT to be worn indoors
- Headscarves, turbans and other religious head coverings should be black
- Headteacher ties and sports ties must be worn so that the stag emblem can be clearly seen
- School issued badge, such as for house points, 100% attendance must only be worn on blazers. No other badges may be worn
- Lanyards and ID badges must be worn at all times, with photographs forward-facing. Lost or defaced cards must be replaced.

The following items are not permissible

- Hoodie/Sweatshirts
- Visibly noticeable make-up or nail varnish
- False eyelashes and/or false nails/acrylics/unnatural colours
- Baseball caps and other hats are not permitted at any time

Where to purchase branded school uniform

\ : <https://www.delisle.org.uk>

Governors

The Governing Body will review this policy and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students

The Governing Body and St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust will also make sure that the school uniform supplier arrangements, give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed annually.

Current information on the website to keep:

Uniform expectations

Standard college skirt, to be worn at knee length.
Smart, black tailored trousers. (not jeans or leggings).
Plain white school shirt tucked into trousers or skirt.
Plain black socks or plain, natural or black tights.
Black blazer with College badge.
College tie appropriate to key stage.
Black V neck cardigan or sweater (optional).
Smart black school shoes.
Plain black belt.
No facial piercings. Students will be told to remove any facial piercings.
Nail varnish, if worn, must be discreet. (No long acrylic/false nails for health and safety reasons)
Make-up, if worn must be discreet.
Ear piercing – maximum of one stud per ear – no hooped earrings or ear bars.
Facial hair should be neat and trimmed.
Hair – no excessive styles or unnatural colours.
No hoodies/tracksuit tops. De Lisle hoodies are only to be worn in P.E.

Compulsory kit items for starters in August 2024:

Boys

Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt
Plain black shorts
Black ¼ zip midlayer with De Lisle badge*
White ankle/crew/trainer socks
Sports trainers
Swimming trunks/swimming shorts (any colour)
Towel

Girls

Plain white t-shirt or polo shirt
Plain black shorts/skort
Black ¼ zip midlayer with De Lisle badge*
White ankle/crew/trainer socks
Sports trainers
Swimming costume (one-piece, any colour)
Towel

At De Lisle, students timetabled for outdoor PE lessons will ordinarily be outside, whatever the weather. With this in mind, we would recommend students wear a plain black base layer top and/or bottoms (examples below), to be worn underneath the t-shirt or polo shirt. A small, discreet logo is acceptable on these items.

As football and rugby lessons take place on grass, it is highly recommended that students wear football boots to reduce slipping.

The following items are optional and may be worn:

Plain black jogging bottoms, sports leggings (durable, thick, non-transparent) instead of black shorts/skort;

Black football socks instead of short white PE socks;

Shin pads (for football, hockey and rugby);

IRB approved gum shields and scrum caps;

Black full zip rain jacket with De Lisle badge*

* Please note that the only items that must have the De Lisle badge on them are the ¼ zip midlayer and the full zip rain jacket. No other jumpers, hoodies or coats will be allowed in PE lessons.

For health and safety reasons, no jewellery should be worn, nails should be kept suitably short, and any student with hair longer than shoulder length must have it tied back with a bobble.

Physical Education Participation Policy

All students are expected to take a full and active part in PE lessons and must bring a change of kit (that complies with the kit list supplied to parents and carers) to ensure they are fully equipped for the activities taught.

If students are unable to take physical part in PE lessons, for whatever reason, they should bring a medical note or a note from parents/carers, outlining the reason(s) the student cannot take physical part in PE, to their PE teacher. They must also bring a change of kit (that complies with the kit list supplied to parents and carers) so that they can assist with coaching, officiating, helping with equipment and any other reasonable tasks the teacher asks them to do. By bringing a change of kit, students will be dressed appropriately for all potential weather conditions.

If there are any issues that cannot be resolved using the directives above, the Head of Department should be notified.

General guidelines

No facial piercings. Students will be told to remove any facial piercings.

Nail varnish, if worn, must be discreet. (No long acrylic/false nails for health and safety reasons)

Make-up, if worn must be discreet.

Jewellery, if worn must be discreet

Ear piercing – maximum of one stud per ear – no hooped earrings or ear bars.

Facial hair should be neat and trimmed.

Hair – no excessive styles or unnatural colours.

No hoodies/tracksuit tops. De Lisle hoodies are only to be worn in P.E. (years 9-11).