

Meán Scoil Mhuire



Uniform Policy

Chairperson:	Ms. Karen Clabby
Acting Principal:	Ms. Mairéad Lyons
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School Uniform Policy Meán Scoil Mhuire Longford

Rationale

Our school uniform identifies each student as a pupil of Meán Scoil Mhuire. It is a fundamental aspect of the school identity. We expect each pupil to wear the school uniform with dignity and pride and to be aware that, when in uniform, each pupil represents not just herself but the whole school community. Meán Scoil Mhuire provides an environment conducive to attaining high standards of teaching and learning. The school uniform is one of the ways in which a positive climate of learning is achieved. It reinforces a sense of pride among students in the school especially when representing the school on sporting or extra-curricular activities and during whole school events.

Aims & Objectives

1. The wearing of the school uniform helps to promote a positive school image.
2. It makes students recognisable as members of the school. Pupils can clearly be distinguished from intruders and makes the school a safer environment for all.
3. It reduces expense to parents of regularly having to purchase clothes for their daughters often at the dictate of fashion.
4. The wearing of a uniform creates a sense of equality among all students and eliminates competition.
5. The wearing of a uniform contributes to better order on the school premises and represents a visible commitment to the rules and school policies.
6. Wearing the uniform reinforces a pride among the pupils in their school, particularly when representing the school on sporting or extra-curricular activities.

The School Uniform Consists of:

- **Royal blue jumper with crest**
- **Navy school trousers-** classic design i.e. straight loose legs, tight styles are not acceptable
- or
- **Navy pleated skirt-** knee length
- **With Navy opaque tights-** with skirt
- **Light blue blouse**
- **Tie**
- **Plain Navy or Black flat shoes-** Leather or leatherette, black or navy laces if laced. Canvas shoes or black runners/trainers are not acceptable.
- **Navy or black coat or jacket-** suitable for winter weather

PE/ Games Uniform

- **Royal blue School Hoodie with crest**
- **Light blue or Navy polo shirt** with collar.
- **Plain unbranded Navy or Black bottoms, no shorts**
- **Runners** - worn for P.E. class only.

Hair- Hairstyles should be neat, tidy and worn off the face. Long hair must be tied back during practical classes and all assessments. The school strongly recommends that long hair is tied back to prevent the spread of head lice. Hair accessories should be small and discreet.

Hats, scarves or other fashion accessories are not permitted attire inside the school premises.

Make-up - Students are encouraged to wear no make-up to school. Heavy make-up is not permitted. Students wearing excessive make-up will be instructed to remove it immediately.

Nails- Students will be strongly advised to avoid long finger nails in practical subjects for following reasons: they may cause injury to self/ others while taking part in P.E. and sport; they may inhibit the development of fine motor skills and dexterity associated with achievement in subjects such as Art/ Home Economics; long nails, false nails and nail varnish are considered to be a hygiene hazard in Home Economics and the Food Industry in general.

Jewellery – Only small stud earrings and piercings are permitted in school. Drop, dangle, bars, ring or hoop piercings or earrings of any type or size, are banned on health and safety grounds. Students will be asked to remove them immediately. Repeat offences or failure to comply with the uniform policy will result in sanctions in line with the Code of Behaviour.

Students should be neat and tidy at all times.

All uniform items should be clearly marked with the student's name.

While wearing the school uniform, within the school and outside the school grounds, students are expected to behave in a manner consistent with the standards set by the school.

Students who are not in full school uniform will not be permitted to class. A parent/guardian will be contacted and asked to bring appropriate uniform to school or collect their daughter and return her in full uniform.

Procedures in relation to the uniform

On acceptance of a place in the school, students and parents are accepting the conditions in relation to the uniform. This is done as part of the enrolment process and parents sign acceptance of same. Specific permission is required for the wearing of a hijab.

Wearing of a Hijab:

Meán Scoil Mhuire is an inclusive school that recognises and celebrates diversity. Students are welcome to wear a hijab as an expression of their Islamic faith. .

- The hijab must be **Royal Blue or Navy** in colour to match the uniform jumper (with no adornment of any kind). The hijab must be ready sown and short in length. It must be tucked in, under the shirt collar of the student in order that the school tie and crest on the school jumper are fully visible and comply with health and safety regulations in the school.
- As an option for PE it is recommended that a sports hijab be worn. This hijab is specifically designed with velcro at the neck to minimize the potential of accidental injury to the student or other students while playing sports such as basketball.
- The wearing of a full veil (niqab) is not facilitated in the school as it would be unsatisfactory for a teacher not to be able to see and engage properly with a pupil whose face is covered. Likewise, the wearing of the burqa is not allowed in the school as this would obliterate the school uniform in its entirety and also obstruct the norm of communication which is customary in Irish society between student and teacher.

Links with Other Policies

- Code of Behaviour
- School Tours/ Outings Policy
- Prefect Policy

Monitoring and Evaluating the Uniform Policy

The uniform policy will be reviewed on a regular basis as the need arises. Views of teachers, students and parents/ guardians will be sought as part of this review.