

DRAFT Scoil Bhríde Dress Code Policy 2024-2027

Our Dress Code plays an important role in helping to establish our school identity.

Having our own unique uniform encourages inclusivity and equality while fostering a sense of community.

The Dress Code supports children to be well-presented at all times, while also ensuring uniform costs are kept to a minimum for parents.

Scoil Bhríde is tracksuit and runners school. We believe that the clothing worn at school must allow pupils to play actively and safely in class and outside.

Aim

The aim of this code is to ensure that there is consistent messaging throughout the school community in relation to our Dress Code.

Rationale for our School Dress Code

- Sense of belonging created
- Establishes school spirit and teamwork.
- Sense of equality increased
- Neat and tidy presentation of all students
- Cost effective for parents
- Establishes and enhances the image of the school.
- Ensures students are safely dressed for all school activities.

School Uniform; General

From April 2024 all students attending Scoil Bhríde must wear the complete school tracksuit every day without modification.

The school building is old and can be cold. To ensure that all children are comfortable, while indoors, we could suggest that parents/guardians buy thermal undergarments for the children to put UNDER their school tracksuit/hoodie. In the event of very cold weather the children are encouraged to wear a navy gilet, navy body warmer or navy light jacket.

If something prevents a student from wearing the complete school tracksuit, a note of explanation from parents is expected.

Parents are encouraged to ensure that children wear clothes that they can manage. It is important that the choice of clothes is such that the children are able to go to the toilet on their own, tie their shoes on their own, button their own jacket etc.

Where additional needs provide barriers to independence, school staff will work with parents to put supports in place.

Parents are encouraged to have the uniform washed at the weekends so that the children are not without their tracksuits during the week.

We would also encourage parents to have a second navy, unbranded tracksuit and light blue polo shirt on standby, in case of emergencies.

The school expects that all students representing the school at special events wear the full formal school tracksuit i.e. navy tracksuit top, navy tracksuit bottoms and light blue polo shirt.

School Tracksuit includes;

- Plain navy tracksuit bottom
- Navy (unbranded) leggings
- Navy (unbranded) shorts
- Navy (unbranded) bicycle shorts
- Plain navy tracksuit top
- Navy hoodie (6th Class only)
- Light blue polo shirt with collar
- Runners

Buying the school uniform/tracksuit

In an effort to support families to keep costs at a minimum we do not insist on parents buying crested tracksuit tops. Non-crested tracksuits can be purchased from most of the major retailers.

Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance

The Back to School Clothing and Footwear Allowance (BSCFA) is a payment that can help with the cost of uniforms and footwear for children going to school.

The BSCFA is paid automatically to many families. If you are paid automatically, you don't need to apply for the BSCFA.

If you do not get an automatic payment, you can apply for the payment on MyWelfare.

Applications for the next school year's payment will open every June.

The following link explains this scheme in detail;

<https://www.citizensinformation.ie/en/social-welfare/social-welfare-payments/families-and-children/back-to-school-clothing-and-footwear-allowance/>

6th Class Hoodies

Children in 6th class can substitute the school tracksuit top with a navy 6th Class school hoodie.

These hoodies will be available for purchase from the school in the second half of Term 1

Footwear

As a school committed to active learning, pupils are required to wear runners to school every day. There is no stipulation on colour, but they must be supportive of your child's foot and

suitable for Physical Education (running/jumping etc) and for playing actively in the yard at break time.

Coats/Jackets

All children must come to school with a suitable coat or jacket on days that are wet or cold.

Art/Craft Lessons

Parents are encouraged to send in an old T-Shirt or shirt that their children can wear to protect their clothing during Art/Craft lessons.

Labelling

It is very important that children have their names on all items of clothing and all personal belongings. The school does not take any responsibility for items of clothing or any other personal items that are lost.

Make Up

Make up, fake nails and false eyelashes are not permitted.

The application of fake tan and the dyeing of eyebrows is strongly discouraged by the school.

Jewellery

In the interest of health and safety, jewellery that could potentially cause injury cannot be worn to school. Necklaces, chains and long earrings may all be pulled, accidentally or otherwise, while the wearing of large rings or badges could pose a risk (again accidentally or otherwise) to fellow pupils.

Stud earrings, flat rings and watches are the only jewellery permitted.

Head Coverings

Children are not permitted to wear hats, caps, coat/hoodie hoods while inside the school building.

If there is a situation where a child needs to do so, their parents must seek permission from the Board of Management in advance.

Dress Code Sanctions

Staff will check each day to ensure that all children are following the school's Dress Code Policy.

Uniform

If the uniform dress code is not adhered to, an explanatory note will be required from the child's parents.

In the absence of a satisfactory note of explanation, and depending on the age of the child and the circumstances:

- Students may be given items of uniform to wear from the school uniform bank.
- Parents may be asked to have items delivered to the school.

Contact will be made by class teachers, with parents/guardians to gain their assistance in ensuring that the rule is complied with.

Senior Management will contact parents if this continues to be an issue.

In the unlikely event of a child refusing to comply with the school's Dress Code Policy parents may be asked to collect students from the school until the pupil is properly presented in accordance with the policy.

Make-Up:

Students will be asked to remove make-up, false nails and false eyelashes.

Contact will be made by class teachers, with parents/guardians to gain their assistance in ensuring that the rule is complied with.

Senior Management will contact parents if this continues to be an issue.

In the unlikely event of a child refusing to comply with the school's Dress Code Policy parents may be asked to collect students from the school until the pupil is properly presented in accordance with the policy.

Jewellery:

Students will be asked to remove jewellery that is not allowed.

Contact will be made by class teachers, with parents/guardians to gain their assistance in ensuring that the rule is complied with.

Senior Management will contact parents if this continues to be an issue.

In the unlikely event of a child refusing to comply with the school's Dress Code Policy parents may be asked to collect students from the school until the pupil is properly presented in accordance with the policy.

Roles and Responsibilities

Parents and pupils

- The correct uniform is worn at all times
- Pupils should be neat and tidy in appearance
- All items belonging to a pupil should be clearly labelled
- Parents must send a note to explain incomplete uniform or any deviation from the uniform policy
- On wet/days children will bring a suitable coat/jacket to school.

- Any families experiencing difficulties should talk with the School Principal for assistance regarding uniform related purchases. All such discussions will be treated in the strictest confidence

Staff

- Staff will work closely with children and their parents to support them to implement the Dress Code. Staff will use SPHE lessons to discuss and reinforce the Dress Code.
- Staff will monitor school uniforms regularly
- Staff will ensure that appropriate sanctions are applied if children do not adhere to the Dress Code.
- Parents will be contacted if issues arise with the wearing of the school uniform or any aspect of the Dress Code.
- Senior Management will be asked to assist if a family/child fails to comply with the Dress Code Guidelines

Communication

The school's Dress Code Policy is shared with, and ratified by, the school's Board of Management.

The policy is shared with the whole school community on the school's website and on the school's social media platforms.

The policy is shared with the whole school community on Aladdin.

The principles and guidelines outlined in the policy are shared explicitly in class with all children in the school by their teachers and SNAs.

A synopsis of the policy is hanging in all classrooms and all corridors.

All classes will revise the Dress Code Policy at the beginning of each school term.

All families who are new to the school will receive a copy of the Dress Code Policy upon enrolment.

Review

This policy is due to be reviewed in June 2027.

Ratification

This policy was ratified by Board of Management on