VERITAS

CARDINAL HEENAN
CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

School Uniform Policy

Author/Adapted from	D Mangan	
Version	V4	
Date approved	July 26	
Approved by	**Full Governing Body** / Governing Body Committee / Individual Governor / Headteacher	
Date of next review	July 27	
Document History		
Version	**Date**	**Notes**
V1	September 2015	"Dress for Success Booklet" following new school uniform designed by members of the school community
V2	November 2022	Following a significant review by governors and parent representatives, in particular regarding affordability of school uniform, the "Dress for Success Booklet" was redesigned to a School Uniform Policy. The most significant change was removal of several "optional" items that included "branded" items. There were no items added.
V3	July 2025	Additional narration/guidance. Renewed "Context" using shared language between Cardinal Heenan's Behvaiour Policy and the strong encouragement from DfE to have a uniform policy. Addition of "Further queries or assistance with uniform" section.
V4	July 2026	Additional information regarding how school have considered the cost of uniform. Additional pictures to support parents.

Our Mission Statement

Our aim is to inspire excellence by encouraging every individual to be the person that God calls us to be.

As a Catholic community, our values and mission are rooted in Jesus' words in John 10:10, 'I have come that they may have life and have it to the full'.

We seek to help our students flourish in all areas of their lives.

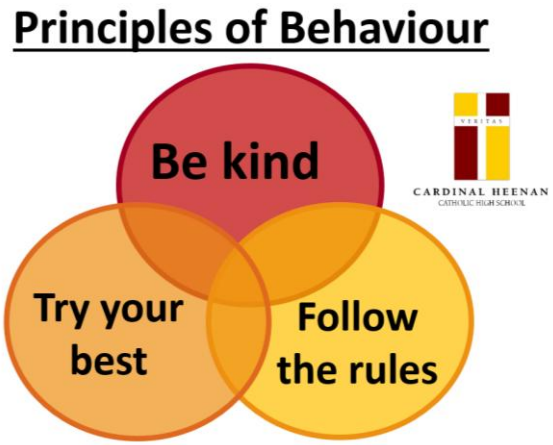
The Catholic Christian community at Cardinal Heenan endeavours to help students to know and build a relationship with Jesus Christ and to live the Catholic faith through prayer, sacraments and service. We are committed to making learning challenging and enjoyable for all so that we will secure the best outcomes and remain lifelong learners who are committed to seeking truth.

We strive to help all to learn and grow, treating one another with respect and generosity, whilst supporting parents as the first and most important educators of our children. **Our aim is to inspire excellence by encouraging every individual to be the person that God calls us to be**, in preparation for this life and the life to come.

1. Context

A significant factor in our approach to creating a culture that promotes excellent behaviour is through our 'offer' as a school i.e. through a strong curriculum model, fantastic teaching, established pastoral care and a varied extra-curricular programme, which includes creating opportunities to enrich pupils' lives with prayer, sacraments and service.

Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School seeks to develop an intrinsic motivation in our pupils to follow our principles of behaviour. These principles are used as a teaching tool to promote positive behaviour and prevent poor behaviour and has been developed as a pupil friendly approach to creating a culture that promotes excellent behaviour.



We aim to inspire excellence encouraging every individual to be the person that God calls us to be. The governing body of Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School believe that uniform plays a valuable role in contributing to the ethos, setting an appropriate tone and instilling pride in the school by:

- Supporting positive behaviour and discipline, encouraging identity with, and support for the school ethos
- Promoting a strong, cohesive school identity that supports high standards and a sense of community among pupils. If some children look very different from their peers, this can inhibit integration, equality and cohesion
- Ensuring that pupils of all races and backgrounds feel welcome. Protecting children from social pressures to dress in a particular way

We are aligned with the Department for Education guidance in believing that our school uniform plays a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

Our school uniform supports our mission statement. We wear the word Veritas (Truth) on our school blazers in memory of St Thomas Aquinas. He lived a life of prayer and study

which led him to the Dominican Order, whose motto is “Veritas” or “Truth”. He sought truth wherever it could be found and burned with the desire to know the one truth, God, which gives meaning to all truths.

A student friendly version of how the uniform must be worn can be found in planners (page 26-27).

2. Limiting the cost of uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education (DfE) on the cost of school uniforms.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that need to have a school logo attached or be in a unique fabric or style) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers, and that requiring many such items limits parents/carers’ ability to shop around for the best price.

We will therefore make sure our uniform:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents and carers

We will do this by:

- Following the statutory limits for compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to a maximum of: 4 or fewer, if 1 item is a tie
- Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary, and limiting these items where possible
- Limiting compulsory branded items to low-cost and/or long-lasting items
- Avoiding specific requirements for items such as coats and bags that pupils could also wear on non-school days.
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for different years
- Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities including (but not limited to) sport, music and drama
- Avoiding requiring different branded items for particular times of the year, such as a branded dress in summer and a branded skirt in winter
- Considering alternative approaches, including loaning compulsory branded items such as sports kit for competitions
- Signpost opportunities to acquire second-hand items to parents and carers of both current and prospective pupils, and publishing this information on our website
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications, and minimising the financial impact on parents/carers of any changes
- Consulting with parents/carers and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy, and carefully considering any complaints about uniform in line with the school’s complaints policy
- Continuing to review this policy, to ensure the cost of our uniform is reasonable and provides the best value for money

3. School uniform items

Uniform should be worn in a clean, smart, business-like manner.

- Blazer with school logo– should be in good condition with sleeves full length – not rolled up or pushed back
- White shirt –collar button should be fastened at all times and shirt should be of a length and style to be tucked in.
- Tie – fastened up to the collar.
- Trousers – black tailored trousers with black socks. **Please see 'Trouser Guidance'** at the end of this policy.
- Skirt – Optional - Plaid style knee length school skirt with black tights.
- Formal black flat shoes – no branding or trainers are permitted. **Please see 'Shoe Guidance'** at the end of this policy. **Shoes can be expensive items, buying a pair that is in a "school shoe" section of a shop does not automatically mean it is accepted at our school.**
- Jumper – optional, not to be tied around waist when not worn.

4. PE Uniform

School uniform includes clothing required for Physical Education (PE); this is practical, comfortable and appropriate to the activity involved.

- Sports Polo in Black/Amber/White embroidered with school name.
- PE hooded top in Black/Amber/White embroidered with school name.

*It is recommended that students have one of each of these however for clarity it is the outer layer of the top half that must be a Cardinal Heenan branded kit.

- Sports Shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms in plain Black
- Plain black football/hockey socks
- Sports Skort in Black/Amber/White – optional

Students will require trainers for PE and it is also highly recommended students have football boots as many of the sports we play are on the grass and run through the winter months.

5. Outer clothing

The school building was designed for pupils to be outside during break and lunch therefore pupils are only inside for break/lunch during extreme weather. In addition to this outdoor coats (ideally waterproof) are often worn when travelling to school or waiting for the start of the school day in inclement weather. For this reason, pupils are encouraged to bring coats to school, in particular, for the colder months. Coats should be worn in addition to, and not a replacement for, the school blazer. Hooded tops, sweatshirts, tracksuit tops or denim are not permitted. Pupils are required to take coats off as they enter the school building.

6. Nails

These must be a natural colour only. No varnish. No false/acrylic nails.

7. Jewellery

The only jewellery allowed is one small plain stud/sleeper per ear lobe – no coloured or diamante type stones. No other facial or body piercing is allowed. One simple gold/silver cross and chain, one simple ring and/or a watch.

8. Haircuts

Smart appearance, No extreme fashion statements, No unnatural colours.

9. Hair Accessories/Adornments

Plain, discreet bobbles, scrunchies and clips may be worn to keep hair neat and tidy.

10. Make-up

- Pupils in Year 7 and 8 should not wear make up to school
- Pupils in Years 9, 10 and 11 may wear discreet make up. This should be subtle and look natural. Pupils should not wear false eyelashes to school. If pupils wear make-up which is not considered discrete by appointed members of staff they will be required to remove it.

11. Belts

If belts must be worn they must be plain black with a small buckle.

12. School bags

School bags should be sturdy and waterproof. The minimum size should be able to hold an A4 folder. No denim. No handbags.

13. Non-compliance with School Uniform Policy

Teachers can discipline pupils for breaching the schools' rules on appearance or uniform. All pupils, parents / carers have agreed to abide by the rules when their child is taken on roll.

The priority of the school is to keep pupils learning in classrooms, but where necessary, pupils may be sanctioned in line with the guidelines within the Behaviour Policy and parents contacted to ensure compliance is quickly achieved.

However, if the pupil continues to breach uniform rules, parents will be invited in for a meeting and it is possible that such a situation results in suspension or exclusion from school in line with legal requirements for exclusion where there is an ongoing breach with no resolution.

14. Further queries or assistance with uniform

One of the aims of a uniform policy to be as inclusive as possible, and governors given due consideration to the uniform policy so that all pupils are able to wear the uniform (in line with the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010). The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include age, sex, disability, race, religion or belief, pregnancy and maternity, and gender reassignment. The school will comply with its duties under the Equality Act 2010 to consider and implement reasonable adjustments where a pupil's disability places them at a substantial disadvantage. In determining what constitutes a *reasonable* adjustment, the school will consider factors including effectiveness, practicality, impact on teaching and learning, safety, consistency of expectations, and fairness to the wider school community. While the school will give full and careful consideration to the views of pupils and parents, the school retains the final decision on what adjustments are reasonable. This decision may not always align with parental or pupil preference. The legal duty is to take reasonable steps to reduce disadvantage; it is not a duty to implement a specific adjustment or to achieve a particular outcome. If pupils or their parents/carers require a reasonable adjustment to be considered they should initially get in touch with the Head of Year, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests. All requests will be considered on a case-by-case basis, taking into account the individual circumstances, available evidence, and the school's duties under the Equality Act 2010. The school will determine what adjustments, if any, are reasonable.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

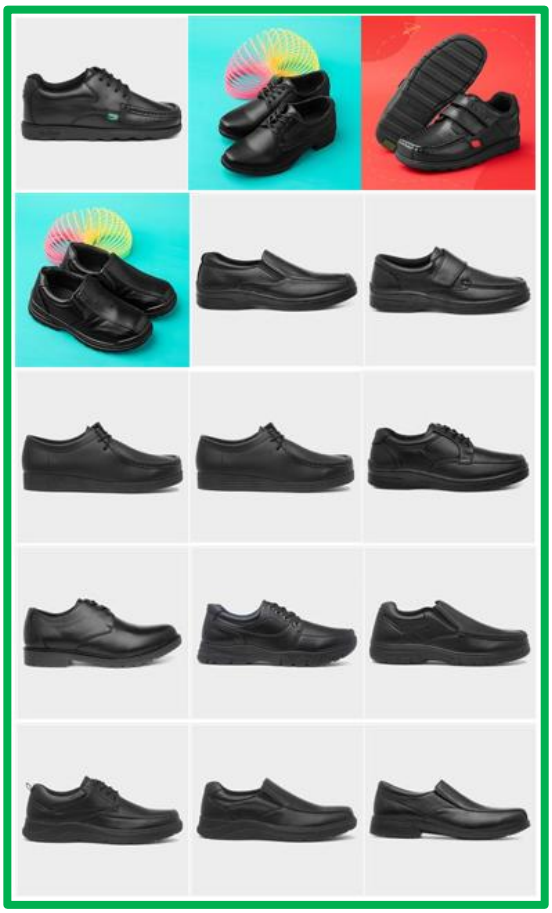
The Leeds Zero Waste Uniform Exchange https://leedsuniformexchange.org.uk is an initiative to both help financially and reduce our environmental footprint. There are also several Facebook pages, simply search "Cardinal Heenan Uniform" in the marketplace search bar.

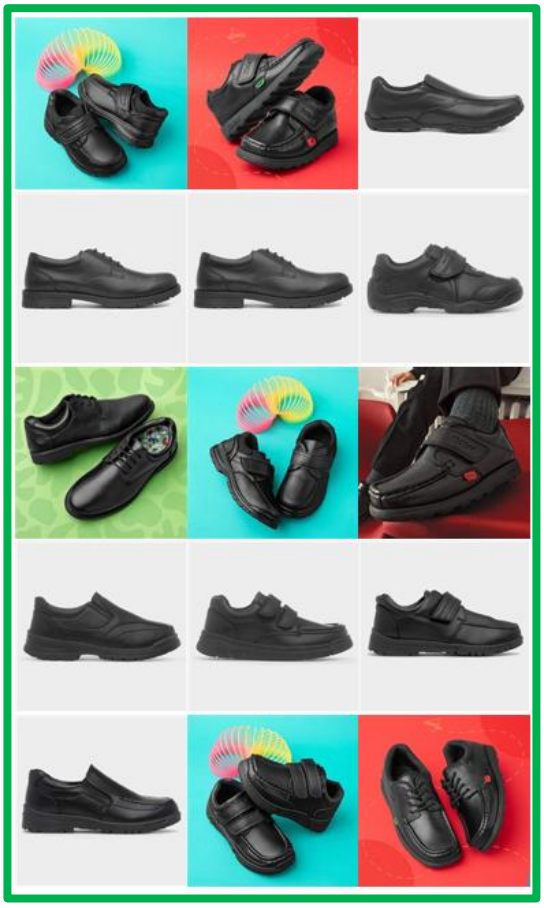
15. Suppliers

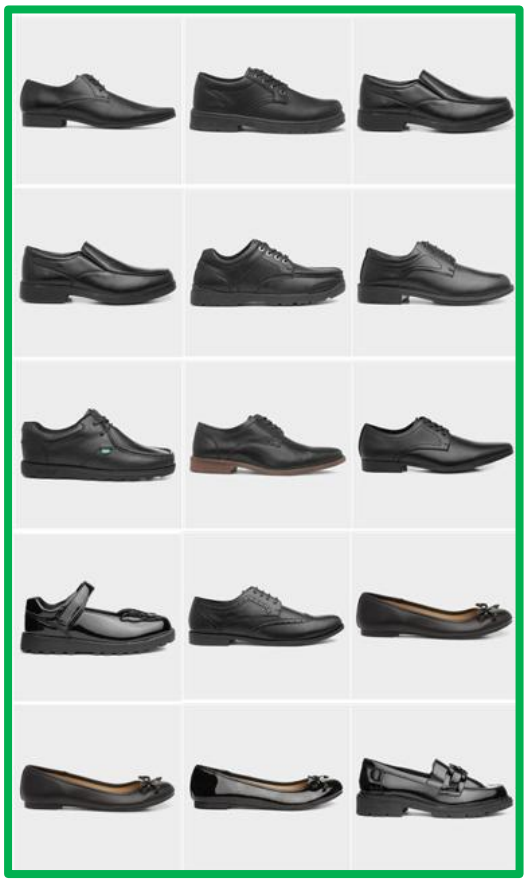
The School Uniform Shop	Rawcliffes Schoolwear Centre
369-371 Harehills Lane Leeds LS9 6AP Tel: 0113 235 1256 or 20 Green Road Leeds LS6 4JP Tel: 0113 230 6272 E-mail: info@uniwears.co.uk Website: www.uniwears.co.uk	617/619 Roundhay Road Oakwood Leeds LS8 4AR Tel: 0113 249 4025 E-mail: customer.service@rawcliffesleeds.co.uk Website: www.rawcliffesleeds.co.uk

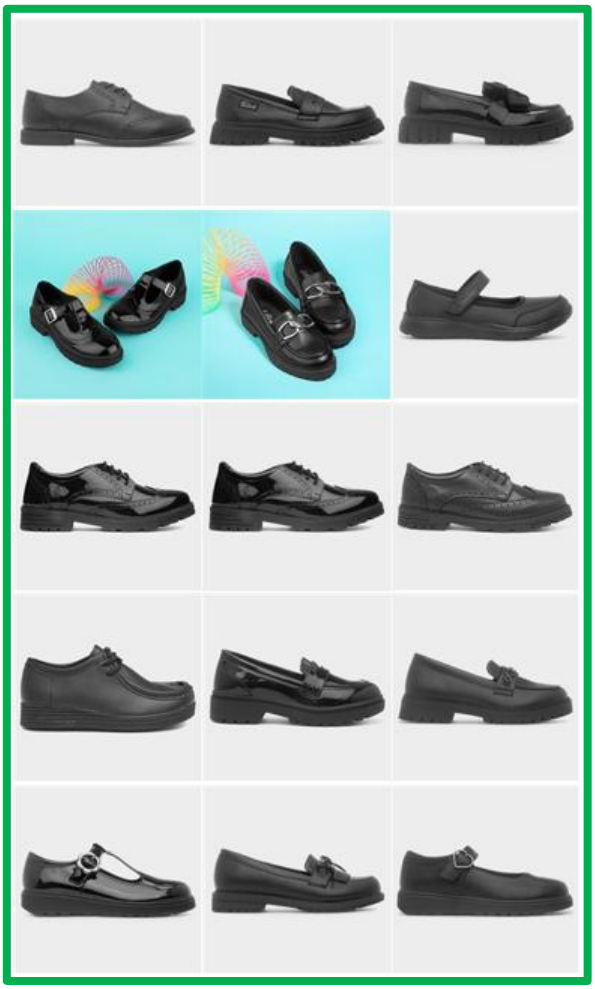
Shoe Guidance

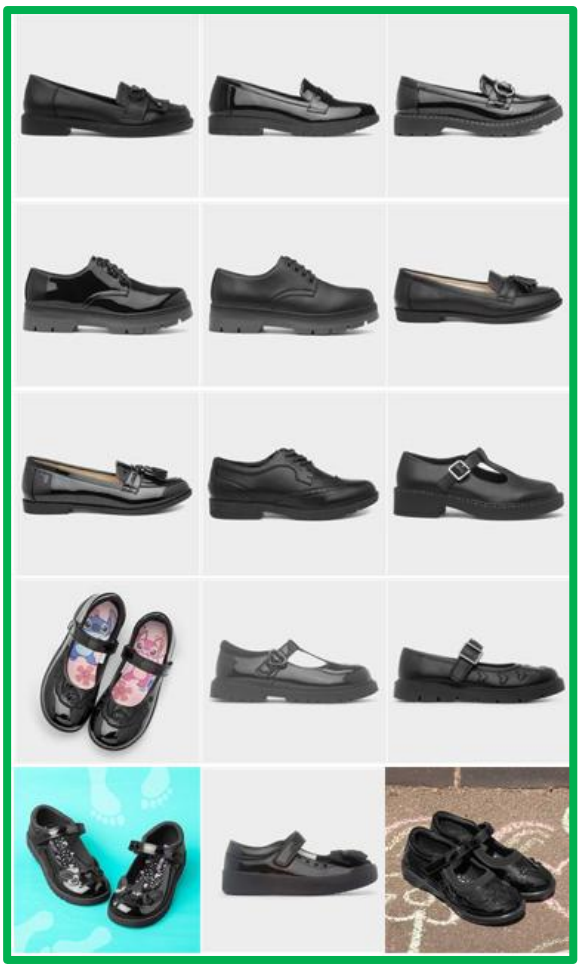
The following styles are acceptable



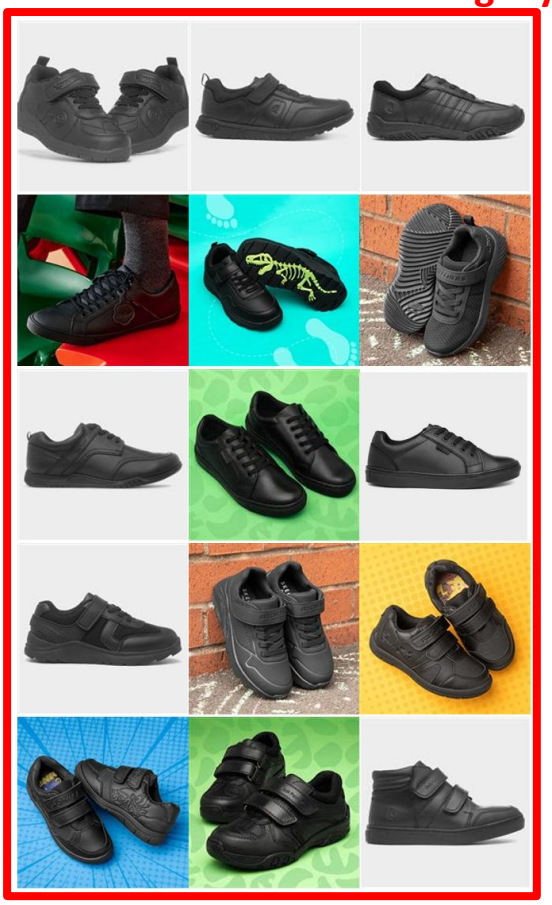


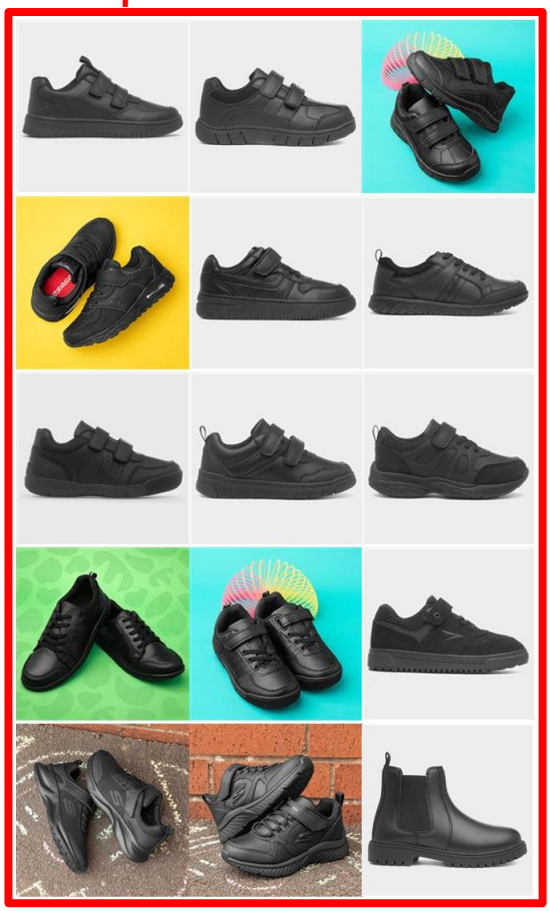






The following styles are not acceptable





The following styles are not acceptable

The following styles are acceptable

The following styles are unacceptable