

PARENT/CARER VOICE – UNIFORM POLICY REVIEW 25.26 (Feb 26)

We are reviewing our school uniform policy in line with government guidance, to help reduce costs and make uniform easier to buy, while still keeping St Marie’s looking smart and consistent.

We would like to know whether parents and carers feel that all current logo items are still necessary, or if some items could be made more flexible — for example, allowing supermarket alternatives with the correct colours.

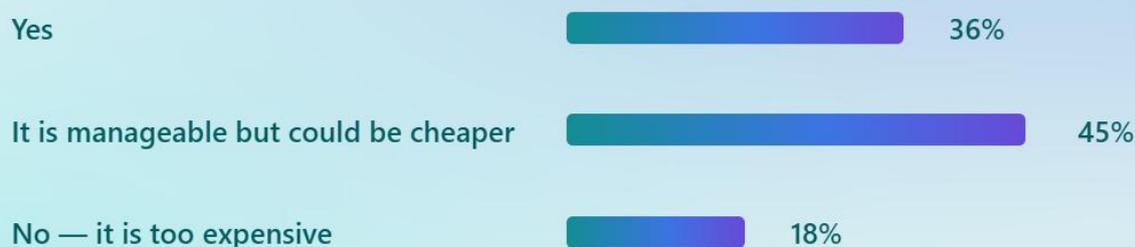
We will also ask if you would prefer the option to attach a St Marie’s logo patch (iron-on or sew-on) to shop-bought uniform instead of buying it already branded.

We would value your views before any decisions are made.

UNIFORM ITEM	COLOUR	PRICE EACH
Sweatshirt with School logo	Navy	£10.50
Sweat Cardigan with School logo	Navy	£12.95
Polo Shirt with School logo	White	£8.25
P.E. T-shirt: HOUSE COLOURS with school logo	Dependant on House – Red/yellow/Blue/Green	£7.50

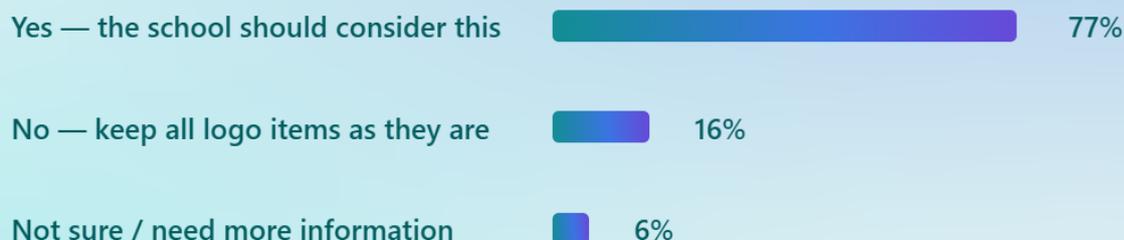
61 responses submitted

Do you feel the current St Marie’s school uniform is affordable for your family?



61 responses submitted

The government advises schools to keep compulsory logo items to a maximum of three. Do you think St Marie's should consider red...



Please tell us briefly why you feel that way

"I feel it is important to display the school logo to promote unity and inclusion."

"Items with a logo look smarter and I feel they are affordable. St Marie's also have good options for families who may struggle with the cost."

"We are very happy with the uniform, it is affordable and smart and brings everyone together. "

"Because I think the logo is part of the school identity"

"Not currently excessive - perfectly fine"

"I think it is smarter and safer for children to have the school logo on uniform "

"I think it's important for the children to look smart and it represents the school in a positive and professional way "

"While I do appreciate that the uniforms that are branded may be slightly more expensive than unbranded jumpers etc, I find that they are of good quality and last at least the school year and there is the opportunity to buy high quality second hand uniforms I also feel that the uniform means that all children look smart and give a positive impression of the school. In addition all of the children do not feel the pressure of having a choice or selection which may reflect on their income/ home background. "

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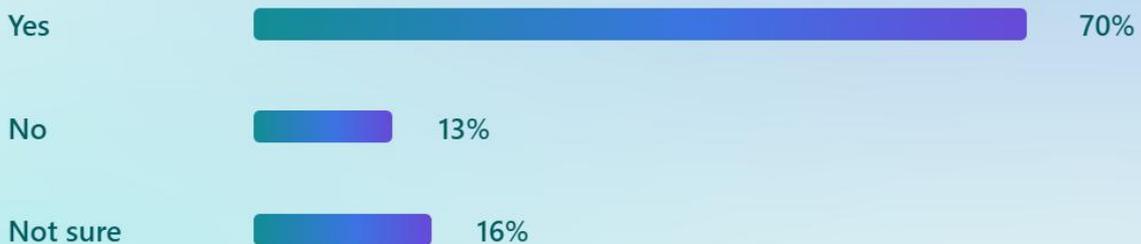
Would you support allowing supermarket/plain uniform items, as long as the colours match and children still look smart?



Would you like the option of buying plain uniform from a shop and attaching a St Marie's logo patch (iron-on or sew-on)?



Government guidance also asks schools to make sure parents get good value and to avoid relying on a single supplier. Would you...



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Are you aware that our Home School Association (HSA) already offers very low-cost second-hand uniform?



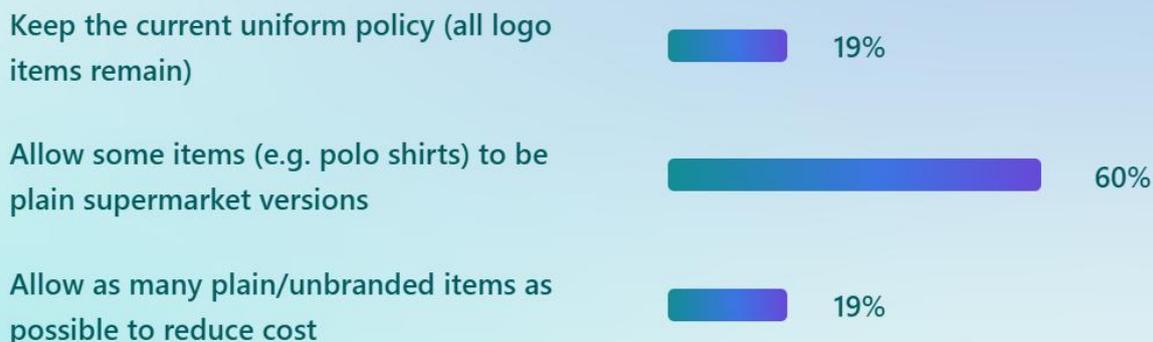
Would you use the second-hand route more if it were easier to access (e.g. online photos / termly "pop-up shop")?



Would you be happy to donate good-quality uniform your child has grown out of?



On balance, which of the following would you prefer the school to do?



Any other thoughts about uniform, cost, or availability?

"I think the white polo shirts are the problem as they dis colour easily and are expensive to replace "

"Our school uniform was one of the main things that appealed to us before we applied for St Marie's. I feel that the uniform helps children to feel included and keeping it uniform (same supplier etc) prevents variation in colour/quality/shape etc. I appreciate that there are costs to be considered however, these are no more than the costs of any other item of clothing. The HSA second hand uniform sales are brilliant to ensure everyone has plenty. We should perhaps promote this even more before looking to alter current uniform policy. "

"White t-shirts are fine but id also like a shirt and tie option. I dont like branded t-shirts, i prefer the £0.75 Lidl ones. T-shirts get stained far too easily and i have to bleach them to get the stains out so branded ones just dont cut the mark. Thanks for the survey!"

"Probably sew on or iron on badges could be a great alternative. "

"Current uniform supplier has very odd sizing items, such as cardigans that are very long and very narrow, or have sizes that do not match labels, eg age 9-11 t-shirts are same size as adult t-shirts. And they don't have enough sizes to choose from, as they appear to miss a year, eg 5-6, then 7-8, nothing for 6-7. "

"The new jumpers are not good quality, especially hoodies. "

"I think keeping cardigans and jumpers as fully branded items is important so that the children look smart and everyone has the same. Moving to non branded polo shirts would be welcome. The PE T-shirts are very hard to wash and stain easily. I would prefer these to be a coloured polo shirt with the logo, rather than the material they are now. Despite cost not being an issue for our family we get three quarters of uniform secondhand. It is always

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really good quality and is much more sustainable. Having more opportunities for pop up shops for secondhand uniform would be great. "

"Maybe a darker colour polo shirt as due to them being white they have to be replaced more often as they get stained. "

"The PE t-Shirts quality is very poor specifically the yellow. It pulls easily "

"Consider more suppliers "

"The quality of items from logo leisurewear is variable. Last year the sweatshirts were really poor but the one we bought this year is much better, but there is no way to know which version we'd get next time, or if it would be a completely different one again. The yellow PE t shirts are particularly susceptible to stains and this adds cost, it feels like a lottery based on which house your child is allocated and therefore how many PE shirts you may need to buy. The sizes provided by logo leisurewear are limiting too, there's a huge jump between 5-6 and 7-8 with no 6-7 sizes available. The branded white polo shirts are expensive and stains are difficult to remove. Children in younger years come home absolutely covered in stains (which is great, they've had a good time!) but it is then expensive to replace and keep them looking smart. Supermarket options would be great here, unless the school would consider changing polo colour (e.g pale blue) "

"I think the logo uniform looks the smartest so keep this for the jumpers/cardigans. It would be helpful to allow non logo polo tops or offer the iron on option for these which would be more cost effective. "

"Happy with the current uniform but do think the branded polo top are unnecessary. "

"I feel like the quality of Logo Leisurewear is poor meaning I have to replace regularly. The delivery time is too long & they make mistakes on orders meaning longer waiting time when having to return ordered items. It is much easier to replace unbranded uniform from the supermarket & cost efficient. "

"Reduce the amount of plastic in the materials especially as they often contain forever chemicals and hormone disruptors. Please favour natural fibres like cotton or wool. Children would feel more comfortable in them too. It may not reduce the initial cost but it would certainly make them last longer. "

"I think the uniform and badges are lovely and keep all the children looking consistent, tidy and a great representation for the school. "

"I think flexibility can help with cost and sustainability so is a good thing for everyone. I do also think it's important to have a sense of belonging and a uniform helps with this. It would be a real shame if a two tier uniform were accidentally created where those who can afford it have the logos, and those who can't, don't. "

"Generally fine. Good to allow plain white polo shirts. "

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"The delivery cost is extremely high, especially if only ordering one item "

"Quality of uniform from logo leisurewear is extremely poor, especially the PE top."

"I think the logo jumpers and cardigans are much better value for money purely because of the colour. I find the white polo tops very tricky especially in the summer. Having two boys they always come home covered in pen, ink, mud and food. Even if the white polos were allowed unbranded this would be great. Or if the polo shirts were branded but available in navy that would also help costs, as they can be given back to HSA once grown out of. You don't find many nice white polo tops from HSA. "

"The white polo shirts are very poor quality and do not keep their condition."

"I think as soon as a schools start loosening its policy then the standards go down. I use the second hand shop all the time which has been great. I do think parents should be encouraged to donate more. "

"I think this is particularly important in younger years who are more likely to ruin uniform. Also could the paint used in reception be washable paint? "

"The polo shirts are a waste of money. You have to buy loads of them, they don't wash well and mostly the kids are in jumpers and you can't see the badge anyway. If you got rid of branded polo shirt then you'd fulfill Dfe guidance and uniform would look the same! "

"I'm happy for the logos to be on the sweatshirts. I think that should stay. I've always bought the logo or tshirt until this year and I think these should change. The yellow shirt is not good for purpose, never lasts the whole year and I believe this is supported due to the lack of them in the second hand store. "