



ARCHBISHOP ILSLEY CATHOLIC SCHOOL

"Let your Light Shine"

Victoria Road, Acocks Green, Birmingham, B27 7XY

Tel: 0121 706 4200

Email: enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk

Website: www.ilsley.bham.sch.uk

Mr D Hearnden, Interim Principal



Friday 10th July 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we look forward to the beginning of the new academic year, I would like to thank you for your continued support in upholding the high standards and values that define Archbishop Ilsley Catholic School.

Our school uniform is far more than a dress code; it is a visible expression of our identity, our Catholic ethos, and our commitment to excellence. A smart and consistent uniform fosters a sense of belonging, promotes equality, removes unnecessary distractions, and reinforces the pride that our students should take in themselves and in representing our school. It also reflects the four virtues at the heart of our school community: **Wisdom, Courage, Dignity and Integrity**.

The school is fully compliant with the Department for Education statutory guidance on school uniform and there are 3 badged items that are required to be purchased, alongside the tie. These are a blazer, PE top and PE bottoms, although a skirt for girls is plain navy and does not require to be badged.

To keep costs down, all other items can be purchased from any retailer selling school uniform.

To ensure that every student begins the academic year prepared to learn, I would like to remind all families of our uniform expectations for September.

The compulsory school uniform consists of:

- Navy blue school blazer
- White shirt
- Year group tie
- Boys: Plain straight-leg grey school trousers
- Girls: Plain straight-leg navy school trousers or a navy pleated skirt worn just above the knee (school skirt or plain pleated style)
- Plain black leather, leather-look or patent shoes
- Plain black tights

Optional items:

- Navy blue school jumper (with or without the school badge), worn beneath the blazer
- Duke of Edinburgh fleece, which may be worn over the blazer

Uniform Standards

To maintain consistency and uphold our high expectations, the following items are **not permitted**:

- Bodycon, pencil or straight fitted skirts
- Leggings, skinny-fit, flared, wide-leg or tight-fitting trousers
- Sports jackets, tracksuit tops or hooded sweatshirts worn in place of an outdoor coat
- Trainers, boots, Crocs, heels, platform or wedge shoes, or branded fashion footwear
- Outdoor coats should be plain grey, black or navy.

Jewellery and Piercings

Students may wear:

- One **pair** of small gold, silver or pearl stud earrings in the ear lobes only.

The following are not permitted:

- Facial or body piercings
- Bracelets, bangles, rings or necklaces

Hair, Make-up and Nails

Students are expected to present themselves in a manner that reflects the professionalism and high standards of our school.

- Make-up, if worn, should be discreet and natural in appearance.
- Nail varnish and all forms of artificial nails, including acrylic, gel, builder gel, dip powder and press-on nails, are not permitted.
- Hairstyles should be neat and appropriate for school, without extreme contrasts in length.
- Hair colouring must be of a natural shade.
- Long hair must be tied back during practical lessons where required for health and safety.
- Hair accessories should be plain black or navy and used only to secure the hair.
- Religious or cultural head coverings should be plain black or navy and secured safely during practical activities.

The school reserves the right to make the final decision regarding whether a student's appearance is appropriate and in keeping with our uniform policy.

PE Kit

Students are expected to wear the following for all PE lessons:

- Archbishop Ilsey navy and red polo shirt with school logo
- Archbishop Ilsey navy and red shorts or navy blue skirt
- Archbishop Ilsey navy and red socks or plain white socks
- Suitable lace-up trainers (Converse, pumps, Velcro fastenings and high-top trainers are not acceptable)

Optional items include:

- Archbishop Ilsey navy half-zip top
- Archbishop Ilsey navy leggings or tracksuit bottoms

Working in Partnership

I ask for your support in ensuring that your child arrives at school each day wearing the correct uniform and meeting our appearance expectations. Consistent application of these standards enables us to maintain a calm, purposeful learning environment where students can focus on achieving their full potential.

Where students arrive in incorrect uniform, they will be expected to rectify the issue as soon as possible. Where necessary, sanctions may be applied in accordance with the school policy. We appreciate your cooperation in avoiding unnecessary disruption by ensuring that all uniform requirements are met before the start of term.

Thank you for your continued support and commitment to the high standards we value. By working together, we can ensure that our students take pride in their appearance.

If you require any assistance with uniform please email enquiry@ilsley.bham.sch.uk or call school.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Hearnden
Interim Principal