



O'Carolan College, Nobber

Student Uniform and Presentation Policy

Mission Statement

At O'Carolan College, Nobber, our mission is guided by the principle of Saothar agus Sonas. Through work, endeavor and commitment to learning, we aim to create a supportive environment where all students can achieve their potential and experience success in school and in life. The school uniform reflects the standards and values of our school community. We view the uniform as a means of promoting equality, consistency and mutual respect among students. It supports a positive learning environment and helps ensure that the focus remains on learning, participation and personal development. This policy seeks to balance personal expression with the school's responsibility to maintain a safe, respectful and effective educational environment.

Aims of the Policy

- Promote equality and fairness.
- Encourage high standards of personal presentation.
- Support a safe, respectful and productive learning environment.
- Ensure students are readily identifiable as members of the school community.
- Provide clarity and consistency regarding uniform and presentation expectations.
- Support student readiness for learning and participation in school life.
- Establish clear, age-appropriate expectations that support students' personal development, responsibility and self-discipline while supporting parents and guardians in maintaining consistent standards.
- Foster respect for school procedures, community expectations and the rights of others.



School Uniform

<u>Junior Cycle Uniform</u>	<u>Senior Cycle Uniform</u>
• Grey school trousers • Grey school shirt • Green school-crested jumper • Approved school skirt	• Grey school trousers • Grey school shirt • Navy school-crested jumper • Approved school skirt
Note: Where the skirt is worn, it must be worn at or below the knee. White unbranded socks or black/navy tights must be worn.	
<u>Footwear</u> Plain black leather shoes <u>Or</u> Plain brown leather shoes Sports shoes, runners, canvas footwear, slippers or similar footwear <u>are not permitted.</u> Footwear should be clean, safe and suitable for everyday school use	
<u>Physical Education Uniform</u> • Black school-crested PE bottoms • School-crested PE leggings • School-crested PE shorts • Red and black school-crested PE top • School-crested PE shirt • Suitable sports runners	
<u>Outerwear</u> The only jacket permitted during the school day is the approved school uniform jacket. Fashion jackets, hoodies, sports jackets and tracksuit tops are not permitted in place of the school uniform. Plain black or navy scarves and gloves may be worn outdoors during periods of cold weather.	
Note: 1. School-crested team wear and approved sponsored team tops may be worn where permission has been granted by school management for specific events. 2. All uniform items must be sourced from the designated supplier or conform exactly to approved specifications. Photographic examples of approved uniform items may be included with this policy as an Appendix .	



Personal Presentation

Students are expected to maintain standards of appearance that are appropriate to a school environment, appropriate to the age and stage of development of secondary school students, and consistent with the expectations outlined in this policy.

Hair

- Student hair must be kept clean and neat.
- ****Hair colours must remain within the natural range of hair colours**.**
- Designs, patterns, slogans, symbols or images shaved into the hair are not permitted.
- Only plain hairbands may be worn.

Where a hairstyle is considered inconsistent with this policy, the Principal shall determine whether it complies with the policy.

Makeup & Nails

- Students may wear light makeup that maintains a natural appearance and does not significantly alter their natural complexion.
- Artificial enhancements and decorative accessories that alter a student's natural appearance are **not permitted**.
- Natural nails may be painted. Artificial nails, nail enhancements and nails that extend more than 5mm beyond the fingertip are **not permitted**.
- Nails must be maintained in a safe and practical shape suitable for school activities

****This provision will be subject to a one-year transitional period and will take effect from the beginning of the 2027/2028 academic year.**



Jewellery and Piercings

- One wristwatch
- One ring on each hand
- One simple bracelet on each wrist
- Up to two piercings in the lower lobe of each ear
- Small stud earrings
- Small hoop earrings not exceeding 10mm
- One nose stud (stone only)
- One simple neck chain

Note:

1. Neck chains must be removed or secured when directed by staff.
2. Any jewellery or piercing not specifically named within this policy is not permitted.

Tattoos

Visible tattoos **are not permitted**.

This requirement reflects the school's commitment to maintaining age-appropriate standards of presentation for second-level students and recognises the permanent nature of tattoos.

Students may be required to cover any tattoo that is visible while attending school, travelling to or from school, or representing the school at school-related activities.

Non-Uniform Days

On **designated non-uniform days**, students are expected to wear clothing that is appropriate for a school environment. Parents/guardians have a responsibility to ensure that students attend school in clothing that is age-appropriate, provides appropriate coverage, and is suitable for an educational setting. Items that are excessively short, excessively tight, revealing, transparent, or otherwise inappropriate for a school setting are not permitted. Clothing displaying offensive language, images, slogans, or content that may cause offence or disruption is also not permitted. The school reserves the right to determine the suitability of attire and may require a student to change or take other appropriate action where clothing does not meet these expectations.

Note: Compliance with all other rules extends to non -Uniform Days.



Uniform Compliance

Students are expected to wear the correct uniform each day. Parents and guardians are asked to support the school in ensuring compliance with this policy.

Enforcement Procedures

Concerns will normally be addressed through reminders, communication with parents/guardians and opportunities to rectify issues. Students may be required to remove, store or replace non-compliant items. Repeated non-compliance may be addressed in accordance with the Code of Behaviour.

Exceptional Circumstances

Parents or guardians should contact the school where temporary difficulties exist regarding compliance with this policy. Every reasonable effort will be made to support families.

Review of Policy

This policy shall be reviewed periodically to ensure that it continues to reflect the needs, values and ethos of the school.