



Coláiste Pobail Acla

School Uniform Policy

DRAFT

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1. Scope of this Policy

This policy applies to all students at Coláiste Pobail Acla.

Students of Coláiste Pobail Acla must wear full uniform during school activities. This includes time spent on the premises before and after school and en route to and from school. Students must also wear the full uniform for State Examinations.

Students are expected to return to wearing full uniform following P.E. classes and other school activities that require or allow different attire. See the Out of School Activities Policy for further information.

Issues arising in regard to appropriateness in terms of dress and appearance of students will ultimately be decided by school management.

2. Relationship to School's Mission

Coláiste Pobail Acla seeks to create an inclusive school community where values, behaviours and attitudes are consistent with our Mission Statement.

In partnership with parents/guardians and the wider community, it respects individual self-worth and aims to provide a safe environment in which each student may achieve his/her full potential.

3. Rationale

Our school uniform is an important part of our identity as a community of learners and promotes a sense of equality. The manner in which students present and conduct themselves while in school uniform reflects significantly on the public image of Coláiste Pobail Acla. Therefore, students wearing our uniform should always be conscious that they represent the entire school community, and as such, their conduct, attitude and manners reflect our school principles and values.

Parents/guardians are asked to support the school by ensuring that students are in full uniform each day.

4. Aims

The wearing of the school uniform and having neat and appropriate appearance will:

- Promote a positive school climate and a sense of belonging to the school community.
- Instil pride in Coláiste Pobail Acla.
- Promote equality and inclusion in the school while at the same time allowing for cultural diversity.
- Foster active learning.
- Uphold our duty of care for the safety and security of the students by making them easily identifiable.
- Comply with Health and Safety requirements.

5. Policy Content

The official school uniform is as follows (see images in Appendix 1 for the correct colour, length and style):

- **The content of this policy is effective from the beginning of the 2020/21 academic year with one exception; all references to shoes/runners in this policy are effective from the beginning of the 2021/22 academic year.**
- Charcoal grey school uniform trousers – regular, classic straight-legged. The trousers must be long enough to cover the top of the shoe.
- Black V-neck jumper with school crest.
- Regular plain white cotton shirt/blouse with collar (**polo shirt not acceptable**). Long-sleeved or short-sleeved is acceptable.
- Charcoal grey skirt (available from Sweeney’s Drapery)
- Black tights/black socks are to be worn with the skirt.
- It is recommended that black shoes/runners are worn by all students in the 2020/21 academic year, however, it will not be compulsory until the beginning of the 2021/22 academic year.
- Black shoes/runners must have a black sole. Shoes must be plain and low-heeled. See Appendix 2 for guidelines on what styles of shoes/runners are acceptable and unacceptable.

Note:

- The uniform jumper, trousers and skirt are available at Sweeney’s Drapery in Achill Sound.
- Other styles of trousers or skirts are not permitted.
- Coats, jackets, hoodies and other non-uniform items may not be worn in class, between classes or class-related activities.
- Students are permitted to wear a garment under the shirt (e.g. non-branded Underarmour type top) in cooler weather provided that it is not visible.
- Students are advised to purchase two of each uniform item in order to preserve and maintain each item.
- It is advised that uniform items are purchased in a size and length that will be more economical for families e.g. trousers with a hem can be let down as the student grows.

6. Breaches of the Uniform Policy

All students must comply fully with our uniform policy. On the occurrence of an isolated occasion where a student is unable to wear the correct uniform, parents/guardians should write an explanatory note (including date) in the notes section of the school journal. **The student must present this note to be signed by their tutor, school uniform coordinator or school management before first class.** If the pupil has a satisfactory written explanation from a parent/guardian, he/she will be permitted to go to class as normal.

In the case where the school has stock of the missing item of uniform, the student will be provided with a replacement item, which will be loaned for the day.

Should a student refuse to wear uniform from the school supply then a parent/guardian will be contacted to drop in the proper uniform to the school. If necessary, students may not be allowed to attend class until the issue has been resolved with parents/guardians.

Should the student refuse to wear uniform from the school supply then a parent/guardian will be contacted to drop in the proper uniform to the school. If necessary, students may not be allowed to attend class until the issue has been resolved with parents/guardians.

Refusal to adhere to instruction from members of Teaching Staff/Management will result in appropriate sanction from the schools Code of Behaviour at the discretion of management.

If a student continues to breach the uniform policy parents/guardians will be notified in writing and a meeting will be organised between parents/guardians and Management to resolve the issue.

School management reserve the right to use their discretion with such matters.

7. Roles and Responsibilities

7.1. Role and Responsibilities of School Management

- Implement the School Uniform Policy.
- Meet with students who are persistently in breach of uniform rules.
- Meet with parents/guardians of students who are persistently in breach of uniform rules.

7.2. Role and Responsibilities of Students

- Wear full uniform at all times in school and during school outings unless otherwise advised by the organising teacher.
- Adhere to all instructions from teachers and school management in regard to school uniform.

7.3. Role and Responsibilities of Parents/Guardians

- Ensure that their child comes to school in correct uniform and to support the school in implementing our uniform policy.
- To properly enforce the uniform policy, the school is dependent on the support of parents/guardians. We acknowledge that there will occasionally be genuine reasons why a student may arrive in school not wearing full uniform, in this case we ask that a dated explanatory note is written or a phone call is made to reception. In circumstances where a student is unable to wear the required uniform for an extended period of time (three days or more), parents/guardians should contact the school.
- Return loaned uniform items **washed and ironed within three working days.**

7.4. Role and Responsibilities of Class Teacher

- Ensure that students are wearing their full uniform in class.
- Report uniform discrepancies to the School Uniform Co-Ordinator.

7.5. Role and Responsibilities of School Uniform Co-Ordinator

The School Uniform Co-Ordinator will implement the policy on breach of uniform rules. In the event that a student comes to school without full uniform, the following procedures will apply:

- The school will make a reasonable effort to contact the student's parents/guardians.
- If necessary, parents/guardians will be asked to come into the school with the correct uniform.
- If necessary, students may not be allowed to attend class until their parents/guardian have been contacted and the issue is resolved.
- The School Uniform Co-ordinator will contact/send a letter to parents/guardians to inform them of a continual breach of the school uniform Policy.

The school cannot accept responsibility for damage or loss to student's property and as such it is advised that student's names be placed on all items of clothing to make it easier to locate and return mislaid items.

In circumstances where issues or concerns arise in regard to the required wearing of school uniform as detailed in this policy, parents/guardians of students and intending students should contact the school principal.

8. Declaration

This Coláiste Pobail Acla Policy was formed following consultation with all staff, members of the Board of Management, parents/guardians and the Student Council. It is recommended that this policy be reviewed every three years or whenever it is deemed necessary by School Management. It was adopted by the Board of Management of Coláiste Pobail Acla on:

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mr. Pat Kilbane

Chairperson of the Board of Management

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Mr. Paul Fahy

Board Secretary & School Principal (Acting)

9. Appendices

Appendix 1: Uniform Items

Jumper	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard black V-neck school jumper with school crest (available from Sweeney's Drapery) 	
Shirt or Blouse	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Standard white shirt or blouse • Long-sleeved or short-sleeved 	
Girl's and Ladies Trousers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Charcoal grey colour ▪ Must be <u>regular fit</u> as opposed to slim fit ▪ No leggings allowed 	
<p><i>Hunter 200 Ladies Trousers</i></p> <p>200 Ladies Lycra Trousers Quality: 62% Polyester 33% Viscose 5% Lycra</p> <p>Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> → Flat front → Hipster waist → Stretch Lycra → Zip and button closing → Side pockets 	 <p>Sizes: 22 24 Leg: L28" L30" L32"</p> <p>Sizes: 26 28 30 32 34 36 38 40 42 Leg: L30" L32" L34"</p>
Boy's and Men's Trousers	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Charcoal grey colour ▪ Must be <u>regular fit</u> as opposed to slim fit ▪ Trousers length must be long enough to touch shoes 	

<p>Hunter 444 Youth/ Men Regular Fit Trousers (also available belted 727 Style) Quality: 65% Polyester 35% Viscose – Non Iron</p> <p>Features:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Flat fronted→ Zip fly→ Hook & bar and button closing waistband → Stain defence→ Exclusive Hunter lined waistband→ Back pocket with button→ Belt Loops	
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<p>Girl's Skirt</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Charcoal grey colour▪ Must be <u>regular fit</u> as opposed to slim fit or pencil skirt style▪ Must be <u>at least knee length</u>▪ <u>No short skirt</u> will be acceptable▪ Black tights or black socks to be worn with skirt
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<p>Hunter Girls and Ladies Skirts (can be ordered from Sweeney's Drapery)</p> <p>T22 / 2x4 Skirt – Girls and Ladies Available in length – 24" Quality: 65% Polyester 35% Viscose with Teflon HT finish</p> <p>Features: Girls</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Double box pleat – front and back→ Half elastic waistband – internal waist adjuster→ Zip pocket→ Pull Up from age 3/4 - 7/8 <p>Comfort Fit Available Features: Secondary</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">→ Double box pleat – front and back→ Zip pocket→ Side zip entry with track & bar	
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Appendix 2: Acceptable and Unacceptable Footwear

Black Shoes/Runners	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Black shoes or runners with black sole. Shoes must be plain and low-heeled. • It is recommended that black shoes/runners be worn by all students in the 2020/21 academic year, however, it will not be compulsory until the beginning of the 2021/22 academic year. 	
Acceptable Footwear	Unacceptable Footwear
	
	
	
	
	