



## Uniform Policy

### June 2024

Ratoath College is very proud of its students and the school uniform which clearly identifies and distinguishes them. Our school uniform is a huge part of our identity as a community of learners.

The students of Ratoath College wear their uniform with pride and honour. The manner in which students present and conduct themselves while in uniform reflects significantly on the public image of Ratoath College. Therefore, students wearing our uniform should always be conscious that they represent the entire school community, and as such, their conduct, attitude and manners should reflect our school principles and values (school ethos).

There are many advantages of school uniforms, for example: A school uniform instils pride, a sense of belonging and a community feeling in our school. It makes it much easier for staff and the public to recognise a student belonging to Ratoath College and also to recognise others who do not belong on our school campus.

- Wearing the school uniform reduces social snobbery and peer pressure in school
- It removes the incidence of inappropriate dress in school
- It helps our students to learn better as it removes a major source of distraction.

A lot of hard work, research, time and collaboration have gone into choosing the uniform for Ratoath College. Parents and guardians are expected to show their support for Ratoath College by fully co-operating with the school in ensuring that all students wear the full school uniform to and from school every day. Below is the current school uniform which is compulsory for all students attending our school:

#### Our Uniform

School Uniform items which can only be purchased from the official school supplier (Kaideen & Co Ltd) and Blondelles.	School Uniform items which can only be purchased separately by parents/guardians
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Red, crested, waterproof jacket with navy fleece lining</li><li>• Red (Junior Cycle) or Navy (Senior Cycle) crested, V-neck jumper</li><li>• Pleated skirt or Navy trousers – regular straight leg fit only</li><li>• Red (Junior Cycle) or Navy (Senior Cycle) crested PE Top</li><li>• Navy, crested T-shirt for PE</li><li>• School tie</li><li>• School navy shorts</li><li>• School <b>slim leg navy tracksuit bottoms</b> or <b>cuffed cotton navy tracksuit bottoms</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• At least 2 white shirts</li><li>• Black socks or tights</li><li>• Black 'Dubarry' style shoes or black leather sole (boys &amp; girls)</li><li>• Plain black leather shoes</li><li>• Proper sports runners for PE (<b>no casual runners, runner boots...etc.</b>)</li></ul>



**Junior Cycle Jumper**



**Senior Cycle Jumper**



**Jacket/Coat**



**Ratoath College Skirt**



**Ratoath Blouse Revere White**



**Ratoath College Shirt White**



**Senior Tie**



**Junior Tie**



***Mol an Óige agus Tíocfaidh sí***



**Ratoath College Boys Navy Trousers**



**Ratoath College Girls Navy Trousers**



**Junior Half-Zip PE Top**



**Senior Half-Zip PE Top**



**Ratoath College Tracksuit Bottoms**

**Straight leg**

**or**

**Cuffed leg**



**Ratoath College Polo T-shirt**



***Mol an Óige agus Tíocfaidh sí***



## School Footwear

Please check the following pictures of shoes that will or will not be allowed to be worn with the Ratoath College uniform.

Parents/guardians are advised to check with the school if they are unsure BEFORE purchasing any footwear.

**The following types of shoes are permitted to be worn by students:**



**The following types of shoes are not permitted to be worn by students:**



**The above list of shoes is not exhaustive. Please contact the school if you are unsure before purchasing footwear.**



## Uniform Code

The school uniform is hugely important in Ratoath College and will be inspected every morning at (school assembly) or during tutor time. Please read the following very carefully. This uniform code will be implemented in the context of our Code of Conduct.

- All students are required to wear the full school uniform (as described in this document) to, from and during school every day. This includes the correct school footwear, official school jacket and official school tie.
- Students should change out of their school uniform as soon as they get home in the evening in order to preserve the quality of the uniform.
- Students should always be aware that they represent our school when wearing the school uniform (even outside of normal school hours). Any poor conduct whilst wearing our school uniform has a potential impact on the image of Ratoath College and may result in disciplinary consequences (in accordance with our Code of Conduct).
- It is expected that the uniform is kept clean and maintained to the highest standards and that students wear it with pride.
- Students should also maintain high standards of personal hygiene at all times.
- All students are required to wear the full school uniform when representing the school on school trips/activities. Any student who does not present in the appropriate uniform will not be permitted to represent the school or go on the school trip/outing.
- On occasion, the P.E. uniform may be permitted for sporting outings or different events e.g. Active Week, HSE Vaccinations...etc. Parents will be informed in advance when this is deemed necessary.
- Once again, students who are not dressed in the appropriate school P.E. uniform will not be permitted to travel to matches.
- School hoodies are only permitted for P.E. lessons, activities or outings. They are not to be worn instead of the school jacket.
- Shoes must be kept clean and polished.
- T-shirts must not be visible under the school uniform. Round neck T-shirts are not allowed to be worn under the shirt.
- The school tie must be worn for special occasions and ceremonies.
- No jacket other than the official school jackets may be worn at any time.
- Non-uniform items of clothing will be confiscated and parents/guardians will be contacted to arrange a meeting in order to return the confiscated item.
- School jackets may be worn inside the school building but they should be removed once in class and hung on the back of the chair.
- The wearing of jewellery for all students is limited to a wristwatch, a small ring on one hand, and a small pair of stud earrings. Health and safety regulations mean that jewellery is prohibited in certain lessons e.g. Home Economics, Material Technology Wood, P.E., etc. as it constitutes a risk. Students should not wear jewellery on days when they have these subjects as there is no facility in the school for staff to 'mind' jewellery.
- It is the responsibility of each parent/guardian to ensure that each item of their son/daughter's uniform is labelled clearly with their name. A waterproof marker should be used.
- Students are responsible for their own property.

**Important Notes:**

1. It is imperative that all students comply fully with our uniform code. On the occurrence of an isolated incidence where a student is unable to wear their correct uniform, parents/guardians should write an explanatory note in the notes section of the student's dialann. The student should present this note to their Caomhnóir before morning registration.
2. The school will send a maximum of 2 letters to parents/guardians to inform them if their son/daughter is not complying fully with the uniform code. This gives parents/guardians an opportunity to address the issue. Persistent infraction of the uniform code will result in the parent/guardian being contacted to come and take the student home until they comply fully.
3. Parents/guardians should contact the school if they are experiencing difficulty in acquiring the uniform.

*This policy was reviewed and approved by the Board of Management in June 2024.*