



Whitburn Church of England Academy

Uniform Policy

From September 2024

Preface

The Academy Vision and Values can be found here:

<https://www.whitburncofeacademy.org/about-us/academy-vision-and-values/>

This policy and its associated procedures are based on these key principles and values.

This policy is also in accordance with the new School Uniform Guidelines from the DfE <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/school-uniform/school-uniforms> as well as the Equality Act 2010 <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/15/contents>

We have a strong belief that our uniform plays a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of the Academy
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education

Our students represent the Academy, and we expect them to be smartly dressed. Uniform is not a fashion item. It is designed to be both formal and comfortable. Our uniform is very simple, and the intention is to place little financial burden on parents / carers.

It is the Academy policy that all students wear the following uniform:

Acceptable (non-negotiable) uniform for Years 7-11:

- Choice of formal plain black trousers or knee length black pleated school skirt (purchased from Initial Images in Rekendyke Industrial Estate, South Shields).
- A black V neck jumper or cardigan with the school logo.
- A long or short sleeved formal white shirt with a formal collar. Please note this must be a formal shirt that can be tucked comfortably into the waistband.
- Formal, plain black school shoes, flat and waterproof to withstand all weather conditions.
- Academy tie, including ties representing school responsibilities, i.e. Prefect, House Captain and Head girl/boy ties.
- Plain black tights and/or plain black or white ankle socks (see appendix 4) with skirts or with full length school trousers.

Students are expected to dress in full Academy uniform from the moment they leave home in the morning until they return home at night.

Please note:

The **only** acceptable uniform is detailed on page 1 and is illustrated in Appendix 1.

Parents and Carers are expected to make sure that their child has the correct uniform and PE kit – and that it is worn correctly.

Short and/or tight skirts, miniskirts including stretchy lycra type, short and/or fashion trousers, slim fitting or short in length and tight-fitting trousers are **not** acceptable.

Casual wear such as (but not limited to) leather or leather look coats, denim jackets, hooded tops (with the exception of special Leavers' hoodies), tracksuit tops, jeans, baseball caps and trainers/canvas shoes are **not** acceptable.

Trainers are NOT acceptable

We do not allow any jewellery other than a standard wristwatch to be worn by our students.

The colour of coats is a personal choice, but hoodies, tracksuit tops, sweatshirts and leather/denim jackets are not allowed.

Religious Reasons

We understand that some students may have religious reasons for wearing certain items of clothing. Head coverings such as turbans or hijabs (which must not obscure the face) are acceptable but should preferably be plain black.

Medical reasons

Some children may have a medical reason for the wearing of non-formal school shoes; this must be medically evidenced to be permitted.

In addition to wearing the correct uniform the following also applies:

Not acceptable:

- Trainers or trainer-type shoes (exemplified with coloured soles, trims or logos), fabric pumps (e.g. Converse trainers/boots), sandals or canvas shoes.
- No jewellery including earrings or other body piercings (e.g. tongue, belly button). If jewellery is worn or brought into school, it will be confiscated. Retainers/ear expanders are not allowed.
- Black jean-type, or skinny fit tight trousers or leggings are not acceptable; this includes sports leggings or lycra flared trousers (see appendix 4).
- Three quarter trousers or short trousers (see appendix 4).

- False eyelashes.
- Make-up and/or fake tan.
- Acrylic nails or nail varnish.
- Sports socks/trainer socks beneath trousers. (see appendix 4).
- Unnatural hair colouring: the interpretation of 'unnatural' is as follows: "colour that is not found within the natural hair colour spectrum, i.e. a bright, extreme or vivid colour and contrasts. (red, pink, green etc)" .
- Fully or partially shaved haircuts (below a 1 guard – no tram lines / no lines in eyebrows or skin fade).
- Eyebrow ‘slits’.
- Coats, hats scarves and gloves must not be worn indoors.

Students should also have:

- A suitable bag to carry books and equipment.
- A clear, refillable water bottle.

Parents who are in extreme hardship are welcome to contact the Academy Business Office and the Academy will endeavour to assist as appropriate on a case-by-case basis.

‘Pre-loved’ uniform

The Academy has a small supply of ‘pre-loved’ uniform where items are available upon request. If Parents/Carers are experiencing financial difficulties, please contact the Pastoral Lead to explain the issue and the item of uniform the child needs.

Student non-compliance

Students will be disciplined for breaching the Academy’s rules on appearance or uniform. This will be carried out in accordance with the school’s published Behaviour Policy.

Student non-compliance is handled in a proportionate and fair way as outlined in Appendix 2.

P.E. Uniform

Essential PE kit
Royal Blue Academy PE t-shirt
Navy Blue Academy PE shorts
White Academy PE socks
Royal Blue ¼ Zip up top
Shin pads & Football boots
Trainers
Mouth Guard for rugby and hockey

Optional PE kit
Navy blue Academy Sports leggings
Navy blue Academy tracksuit bottoms
Academy PE fleece
Towel and soap / shampoo for showering
Academy Drawstring bag for PE kit



The basics of both school uniform and PE kits can be purchased from many High Street stores. However, the uniform suppliers who supply our jumpers, pleated skirts, ties and PE kits can be found from the suppliers listed below:

Bolam Sports (PE Kit)

Website: <https://bolampremiersportswear.co.uk/whitburncea>

Rekandyke Industrial Estate, South Shields, NE33 5BZ

Initial Images

Website: <https://www.initialimages.co.uk/>

Unit 2D-2E Rekandyke Industrial Estate, South Shields, NE33 5BZ

Michael Sehgal

Website: <https://www.michaelsehgal.co.uk/schools/whitburn-academy/>

Unit 17, Airport Industrial Estate, Kingston Park Avenue, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE3 2EF

Mouth Guards

It is essential that mouth guards be worn by students in PE lessons involving sports such as rugby and hockey, to offer a measure of protection against mouth or jaw injuries. Mouth guards are recommended for sports such as tag rugby. The most effective mouth guards are custom fitted from a dental impression of the teeth. However, the Academy has a supply of self-moulding mouth guards available for purchase from the Stationery Shop. The responsibility for the standard of mouth guards provided rests with the parent/carer.

Severe Weather

In adverse weather, wellington/waterproof boots can be worn but students must then change and wear their school shoes in school.

Sixth Form Students

Please follow the Sixth Form Dress Code – see Appendix 3.

**Appendix 1:
Acceptable (non-negotiable) uniform**











Appendix 2:

Uniform breach consequences

- Student is given a 1-hour sanction on each evening that uniform falls short of expectations – no exceptions. Failure to attend this detention will incur a day in reflection the following day. Furthermore, the uniform breach must be remedied before returning the next day.
- Persistent breaches will incur reflection and possibly suspension due to repeated defiance.

Appendix 3: Sixth Form Dress Code

Students in the Sixth Form have the privilege of choice, provided that their dress is appropriate for a professional, working environment. The dress code has been reviewed and updated in 2023-2024 in consultation with our students.

Acceptable Dress

- Smart, formal top. No sportswear, sweatshirts or hoodies. A smart, formal top would not expose the midriff. Collared shirts, ties are optional. Polo shirts are acceptable, T-shirts are not. A plain, round or V-necked jumper is acceptable, a sweatshirt or other sports wear is not.
- We worked with our student reps to introduce a Sixth Form hoodie which is acceptable to be worn during colder weather. hoodies can be ordered from Bolam Premier Sportswear Store (Rekandyke Industrial Estate, South Shields). The website is <https://bolampremiersportswear.co.uk/whitburncea>
- Smart trousers, skirt or dress of a modest, formal length (no less than midway down the thigh is considered formal).
- There is no restriction on footwear but open-toed sandals are not permitted in science labs.
- Make-up and jewellery appropriate to a business environment.
- Hair colouring is permitted.
- Lanyard with Student ID badge.

Unacceptable Dress

- Denim.
- Sportswear or other casual wear (unless attending practical PE lessons or acting as a Sports Coach).

The Head of Sixth Form will have the final say as to whether items of clothing etc. are deemed to be appropriate under the Dress Code. Students may be sent home to change if they are flouting the dress code.

Safeguarding and ID Badges

It is a requirement that every person on site is immediately identifiable as a member of the Academy community so Sixth Form students must wear an ID badge at all times. There are **three** components (lanyard, ID card and card holder) and all three must be visible.

A cost will be incurred for replacement badges or lanyards.

Appendix 4:

Socks beneath full length trousers

Acceptable



Not acceptable



Not acceptable

Lycra trousers/leggings or flares



Trousers where the hem does not touch the shoes or are short/3/4 in length



Uniform Policy		
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