



Uniform Policy

Believe, Achieve, Celebrate

Policy on Academy Uniform

1 Introduction

- 1.1 It is our policy that all children should wear Academy uniform when attending the Academy, or when participating in an Academy-organised event outside normal Academy hours. We provide a complete list of the items needed for Academy uniform in our Academy prospectus.

2 Aims and objectives

- 2.1 Our policy is based on the notion that an Academy uniform:
- promotes a sense of pride in the Academy;
 - engenders a feeling of community and belonging;
 - is practical and smart;
 - identifies the children with the Academy;
 - is not distracting in class (as fashion clothes might be);
 - makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance;
 - is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers;
 - has been designed with health and safety in mind.

3 Jewellery

- 3.1 On health and safety grounds, we do not allow children to wear jewellery in our Academy. The exceptions to this rule are earring studs in pierced ears, and small objects of religious significance, such as a crucifix on a chain. We ask the children either to remove these objects during PE and games, or to cover them with a plaster.

4 Extreme haircuts

- 4.1 The Academy does not permit children to have haircuts that could serve as a distraction to other children. Hairstyles which are culturally natural are permitted.

5 Footwear

- 5.1 The Academy wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes with platform soles or high heels in Academy, so we do not allow this. Where possible, black footwear should be worn.
- 5.2 We ask all parents and carers of children, especially in the Early Years, to make sure that their children are able to take off and put on their own footwear. This is to encourage their independence.

6 The role of parents and carers

- 6.1 We ask all parents and carers who send their children to our Academy to support the Academy uniform policy. We believe that parents and carers have a duty to send their children to our Academy correctly dressed and ready for their daily work. Parents and carers should ensure that their child has the correct uniform, and that it is clean and in good repair.
- 6.2 If any parent would like the Academy to modify the uniform policy, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the Principal. The Academy welcomes children from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are serious reasons, e.g. religious objections, why parents and carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the Academy uniform, the Academy will look sympathetically at such requests. Similarly, should an item of Academy uniform prove problematic for a pupil with disabilities, then parents and carers are invited to draw this to the attention of the Principal. The Academy will not treat pupils with disabilities unfavourably.

7 The role of councillors (governors)

- 7.1 The governing body supports the Principal in implementing the Academy uniform policy. It considers all representations from parents and carers regarding this policy and liaises with the Principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

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7.2 It is the governors' responsibility to ensure that the Academy uniform meets all national regulations concerning equal opportunities, and that our Academy uniform policy is consistent with our policy on equal opportunities.

7.3 Governors ensure that the Academy uniform policy helps children to dress sensibly, in clothing that is hardwearing, safe and practical.

8 Monitoring and review

8.1 When monitoring this policy, through its committee work, the Academy Council will:

- seek the views of parents and carers, to be sure that they agree with the policy, and support it;

- consider with the Principal any requests from parents or carers for individual children to have special dispensations;

- require the Principal to report to the Academy Council on the way in which the policy is being implemented.

8.2 This policy will be reviewed by the Academy Council every two years, or earlier if considered necessary.