

25 November 2022

Dear parent/carers

**Re: Uniform and equipment expectations**

As we approach the Christmas period and the weather becomes increasingly wet and cold, this letter details a reminder of our uniform and equipment expectations for families.

At The Dukeries Academy, we have the highest expectations of student uniform and equipment. This aligns with our Excellence value. We know that when our basic standards are met, it improves every aspect of Academy life. Ensuring that students feel a sense of belonging, community and wear our Academy uniform with pride is at the heart of what we do.

Below is a reminder of the expectations within our uniform and equipment policies.

**We expect all students in KS3 and KS4 to wear:**

- The Academy blazer, which we expect students to bring to school every day.
- White, collared shirt.
- Plain black tailored trousers (no jeans, chinos, tight, stretchy or legging styles) **or** a plain black, knee length, pleated skirt. The uniform skirt can be purchased from our uniform supplier at a reasonable cost ([www.uniform-direct.com](http://www.uniform-direct.com)). If another supplier is used, then the skirt must match the same criteria. No other style of skirt is allowed.
- TDA tie featuring the Academy logo. The tie is available for new students to buy from our uniform supplier. We will also hold some stock on site.
- Black socks/tights – no over the knee style socks are allowed.
- A V-neck black jumper to be worn under the blazer (optional)
- Sensible black shoe – no high heels, boots, trainers or canvas shoes

**For PE:**

- **PE kit is available from our kit partner A-Game Sports.**
- Plain navy shorts, blue, branded T-shirt (from A Game), tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings (whichever is most suitable).
- Navy hooded jumper with embroidered Dukeries logo, available only at A Game Sports (no other outer layers will be permitted).
- A change of socks for PE is essential. Students should wear a pair of white socks for PE.

Students should wear a coat for wet or cold weather. Hoodies or sweatshirts, including the Academy sports hoodie, are not acceptable alternatives. We have launched a campaign, in conjunction with Tesco Ollerton, to provide winter coats for any member of our Academy or wider community. If you have any winter coats you no longer require, please donate at the Academy reception or at customer services at Tesco, and we will distribute to those in need.

We do understand that things can sometimes go wrong. Shoes or clothing can get wet or become worn out. In these difficult economic circumstances, we know that families cannot always replace

uniform straightaway. Therefore, we will do everything we can to work with our parents and carers to resolve any issues with uniform.

### **Other Dress Code Expectations**

At The Dukeries Academy it is important that everyone understands and adheres to our high standards in relation to our dress code.

Please be aware of the following:

- Hairstyles should be appropriate. No more than one hair colour and no bright, unnatural colours.
- Small amount of subtle make up is allowed.
- One small stud earring in each ear is allowed.
- A wristwatch is allowed.
- No other jewellery, piercing or fashion accessories are allowed.

We have also updated our policies to clarify that **false eyelashes are not allowed**.

### **Equipment**

We expect students to be equipped for learning. This means that students are expected to bring the following equipment to the Academy every day:

- Two pens (blue or black)
- A pencil
- A pencil sharpener
- Ruler
- Rubber
- Green pen

### **Standards Gate**

At TDA, we operate a Standards Gate in the morning between 8.20am and 8.40am, where students can collect missing equipment and uniform items, including ties, shoes and blazers. Students are expected to attend Standards Gate and work with our pastoral teams to resolve any issues. Should any of our families require specific support, our pastoral teams will work with you on an individual basis to help you and your child.

We are requesting that you work with us to make sure that the standards and expectations outlined in this letter are met. We are in the process of ensuring that Standards Gate is fully re-stocked. This will be the case by **Friday 2 December 2022**. From this date, students who are regularly not meeting our basic expectations for uniform and equipment or refuse to comply with these expectations may be placed in Internal Exclusion until the issue can be resolved.

Thank you for your continued support.



Mr Mike Brett  
Vice Principal