

18 July 2024

Dear families

Re: Academy Uniform

I hope this letter finds you well.

As we approach the start of the new academic year, I am writing to provide you with important reminders of our Academy Uniform Policy before we begin the new academic year in September.

At The Dukeries Academy, we take great pride in maintaining high standards of uniform and appearance amongst our students. We have made appropriate adaptations to the uniform policy during the summer in line with the requests from both parents and students and through the Student Leadership Team. The more flexible approach to summer uniform was designed to support pupils working in higher classroom temperatures and to work in partnership with families.

I would like to remind all parents, though, that this adaptation will not continue when we return in September. Our normal uniform policy will apply from our return.

It is important that all pupils adhere to our uniform policy. The Academy uniform is part of our sense of community and belonging but also forms part of our high standards and expectations.

I would like to draw your attention to two specific areas of our uniform policy where we have seen pupil uniform not following Academy policy:

- Nails: No acrylic, gel, or false nails will be permitted.
- Eyelashes: Similarly, the wearing of false eyelashes will not be allowed.

Failure to comply with these requirements results in sanctions, which may include removal from normal school routines into Internal Exclusion until the issue is resolved. We ask for your continued support in making sure that your child is prepared for school.

We are always committed to working in partnership with families. We continue to operate Standards Gate and have made significant investment in purchasing spare equipment, blazers, shoes, ties, bags, PE kit and winter coats. Pupils without the required uniform or equipment are expected to attend Standards Gate between 8.20am and 8.40am where staff work with them to make sure they have access to what they need. Pupils can also access Standards Gate during Morning Meeting with their Pastoral Leader.

By working together, we can maintain the high standards that are essential for the success and development of our pupils.

Our uniform policy can be found on our website for your reference here; [Uniform - The Dukeries Academy \(attrust.org.uk\)](https://dukeries.attrust.org.uk). Please ensure you check here before purchasing new items of uniform. I have also attached a summary of what constitutes acceptable and unacceptable Academy uniform below. (See appendix 1).

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

We look forward to welcoming your child back in September.

Yours sincerely



Nigel Caunt Vice Principal

Uniform Policy

1.1 Skirts

Students should wear a plain, black, knee length, **pleated skirt** which can be purchased from <https://www.uniform-direct.com/> at a cost of £12.99 or £15 for an adjustable waistband. If you would prefer to use a different supplier, it is essential that the skirt matches the same criteria as the style supplied by Uniform Direct and is pleated. Any other style or length of skirt will be *against uniform policy* and will therefore **not be allowed**. Parents may be asked to collect students and rectify the issue so that the skirt meets the academy's uniform policy. **See Appendix 1** for picture clarifications.

1.2 Trousers

All trousers should be of a **formal style**. No skinny styles, stretch fabrics, jeans, chinos *or leggings* will be allowed. We are aware that many suppliers, such as local supermarkets, will try to sell you inappropriate styles by stocking them in their 'uniform' section. Please be mindful of this when making your selection. Schools differ in their expectations, so please ensure you check against this policy. If students are wearing trousers that go against our uniform policy, parents will be asked to collect students and rectify the issue so that the trousers meet the academy's uniform policy.

1.3 Jumpers

For any child wishing to wear a jumper underneath their blazer a plain black, knitted, **V-neck** sweater can be purchased from <https://www.uniform-direct.com/> at a cost of £12.99. If you would prefer to use a different supplier, it is essential that the jumper matches the same criteria. **Round necks, logos, sweatshirts, zip up tops or hoodies will not be allowed**. If your child still has their original TDA jumper with the gold stripe this can also be worn. Hoodies may be worn to and from school, but they should be placed inside their school bag when on site. Hoodies are **not to be worn** on school site at any time. Jumpers that do not meet our uniform policy will be confiscated and will *need to be collected by parents*, as will hoodies.

1.4 Blazers, shirts, shoes, socks and tights

Blazers can be purchased from our supplier <https://www.uniform-direct.com/>. Shirts should be white with a formal collar. **Shoes should be plain** black and a formal style. No boots are allowed. **Trainers or shoes with logos or other design features are not allowed**. Socks and tights should be plain black. Over-the-knee socks are not allowed. Leggings are not to be worn at any time. **See Appendix 1** for picture clarifications on shoes.

1.5 Jewellery, hairstyles, nail varnish and make up

Students are permitted to wear **one pair of small stud earrings** which are to be removed during PE lessons. They must be plain metal (silver or gold in colour) and must not have any coloured gem in



them. Nose studs or any other facial piercings *are not allowed*. A discreet clear retainer may be worn for other piercings. **Students may wear a wristwatch**, but no other jewellery is allowed, including rings, bracelets, or necklaces. **False eyelashes** are not to be worn. If students do not follow our policy, jewellery will be confiscated, and **parents will need to collect the confiscated items**. Make-up should be discreet, and your child may be asked to remove make-up that is considered unacceptable. Coloured **nail varnish and acrylic / false or gel nails are not allowed**. Hair colour should be natural with **no extreme colours or styles**, including shaved designs. Parents will be asked to take a lead to rectify this, in line with the home-school agreement, if there are any infractions.

1.6 Equipment

Students should have a bag with them every day. Within this bag there should be a pencil case containing black / blue pens, a pencil, ruler, rubber and a green pen. This should be checked regularly at home and any missing items replaced.

Appendix 1 – Permitted and non-permitted items.



School shoes should be **ALL BLACK**. There should be no white, or coloured logos present on them.



Shoes should be polishable and **MUST NOT** be made of fabric, suede, canvas or other fabric materials.



Skirts should be **knee length and pleated**. They should not be worn with leggings.



Pencil skirts, tube skirts, bodycon skirts and mini-skirts **are not permitted** at TDA.