

15th September 2023

Dear Parent/Carer,

In a drive to raise standards across the Academy, one key area is uniform. We appreciate your continued support to make sure that your son/daughter is wearing the correct uniform every day to help us raise and maintain high standards across the Academy.

Thank you if you have contacted us asking questions regarding our uniform policy. On the back of these questions, I am sending this letter to clarify our uniform policy which is on our school website under 'Our Academy' then click 'Policies & Procedures'.

The vast majority of our student population are wearing the correct uniform; however, we do need your support to make sure all our students know and wear the correct uniform at all times every day.

Key reminders:

Trainers/crocs

These are **not** permitted at all. We are aware some of the big sports companies are producing trainers to look more like shoes. Many of these are trainers and we will not allow these to be worn at school. Please do not buy this type of trainer shoe. We **strongly advise** you to contact your child's Achievement Leader if you are unsure if the shoes you are about to purchase meet our policy as we wouldn't want you to spend a significant amount of money on the incorrect footwear.

If your child comes to school and is not wearing the correct footwear, we will challenge them at the gate. You will be called to bring shoes to school and your son/daughter will go to refocus until school shoes are worn.

If there is a medical reason for which you have a doctor's letter, then please email your child's achievement leader in advance of the day with a copy. They will then communicate this to staff. Without a letter we will follow our procedure above.

Shirts & Ties

These must have a collar and button at the top. Ties must be worn correctly and not taken off. Shirts must be tucked in. Open neck shirt/blouse will **not** be permitted, and your child will be taken to refocus until a correct shirt is

purchased and worn. We will again contact you to try and resolve this issue first thing in a morning so they can then return to lessons promptly.

Blazers and jumpers

Students must wear blazers when at school. Coats do not replace blazers. Blazers must be worn to enter in a morning. If your child chooses to wear a plain black jumper, this does not replace the blazer. They would wear the jumper under the blazer. When in classrooms and at an appropriate time, teachers will permit students who ask to take blazers off.

Ear & nose rings

1 x plain gold or silver stud only in each lobe of the ear. Further and detailed clarity regarding all piercings can be found in our policy in **section 3.5** of our uniform policy. Nose rings are **not** allowed, and students will be asked to wear a clear plastic stud or take them out. Plasters over the nose is a short-term solution only.

Please support us by not allowing your child to get new piercings which they cannot remove during term time.

Trousers and skirts

We are seeing students begin to wear 'fashion' tight fitting, short leg and turned up trousers. These are not part of our uniform policy. Students will be placed in refocus until a suitable skirt or pair of trousers can be brought up to school for them to change into.

Skirts should be to the knee and not rolled up. **Clarity on school skirts can be found in section 3.1 of our uniform policy.**

Nails

We appreciate many students like to have their nails nice and on special occasions have nail extensions. Extension/acrylics are not suitable for school and are not allowed. Please support us by only having these done during school holidays and then having them removed for returning back to school. If this is not adhered to, your child will be placed in refocus until they are removed.

PE kit

Clarification regarding our PE kit is in the uniform policy.

If your child does not have their kit, there is an expectation they will borrow/lend kit. This kit is washed every time it is used. If a child refuses to lend kit, then they will be escorted to refocus.

We do hope the above clarification supports you and your child with our uniform policy. We do have a limited amount of uniform we can lend to your child, and when we can, this will be offered as an option for that day. This is not a long-term solution.

If you are in a position whereby you are financially struggling to purchase uniform, please contact your child's year team to discuss this further.

This letter does not replace the uniform policy and we ask you all to read through it on our website: [Uniform-policy-SWA-2023-24.pdf \(wpengine.com\)](https://www.wpengine.com)

If you have any questions, please contact your child's year team via the MCAS app.

Thank you in advance for your support. We want all of our students in school and ready to learn. Please support us in full with our uniform policy so we can start each day positively as students arrive at the gate.

Sincerely,



Mrs Downing
Vice Principal