

10th May 2024

Dear Families,

Uniform standards and expectations

I am writing with a reminder of our uniform standards and expectations, and to ask for your support in maintaining our high standards to the end of the year. The vast majority of students continue to wear their uniform correctly and proudly, and we are very grateful for the support of families in ensuring that this happens. We do not want these standards to slip, including for Year 11 students who are expected to attend their exams in uniform.

Our uniform

The uniform policy has not changed, and remains the same as published [on the Academy website](#):

For all students Years 7-11:

- Charcoal grey plain full-length trousers
- If a belt is to be worn, this must be black and suitable for school
- Maroon School Uniform Polo Shirt with House Colour Trim and School Logo
- Plain black flat polishable shoes. Must be all black, with no coloured logos or flashes. Shoes should enclose and protect toes and heels for health and safety reasons. Boots, canvas or fabric shoes or trainers are not allowed. Air Force or similar plain black trainers with uppers that are “polishable” are acceptable as school shoes, as are any plain black polishable shoes. Trainers with fabric uppers, or trainers with white or coloured logos or flashes, are not acceptable.
- Black socks only
- Hats, scarves and coats, if worn, should be plain, without logos or patterns. Denim or leather jackets are not permitted.

- If **walking** or **cycling** to school, we recommend students wear a high visibility addition to their normal coat or stickers on their bag, particularly during the winter months.
- **Hoodies:** Academy hoodies (House PE hoodies, Maroon Academy hoodies, or Grey Year 11 hoodies) are acceptable to wear as part of the Academy's uniform. Hoods must be worn down. Other hoodies (those not issued by the Academy, or "trip" hoodies) are not acceptable and should not be worn to school.
- **Hair colour and style:** hair should be a natural colour. Extreme hair styles are not acceptable (for example very short hair or hair with designs cut in). Please check with the Academy beforehand if you are unsure. The decision of Academy staff on the definition of "extreme" and "natural" will be final. The Academy is signed up to [the Halo Code](#): we champion the right of staff and students to embrace all Afro-hairstyles.
- **Jewellery:** students are permitted a watch and a ring. Piercings in the ear and/or nose must be studs only for health and safety reasons. Hoops, rings, dangly, spiked, chain link or spacer style earrings or nose piercings are not permitted. No other piercings are allowed (e.g. tongue or other parts of the body). All piercings must be removed or covered with a plaster when taking part in PE or Dance. Bracelets and anklets should not be worn. Necklaces should be tucked inside tops. All watches of any kind must be removed during exams.
- **Make up:** make up is not permitted in Years 7 or 8. In Years 9-11 make up, if worn, should be discreet. Nail varnish, false nails and false eyelashes are not permitted.
- **Hot weather:** in the event of extremely hot weather, the Headteacher will authorise PE kit as uniform for the day. This will be notified on a daily basis. Unless notified, standard uniform applies.

We now have full changing facilities throughout the exam season due to the introduction of the Pool Hall for exams. Students should therefore only wear PE kit for PE and Dance lessons, and should change back into uniform for social times and lessons.

What happens if students are not in the correct uniform?

If students are not wearing the correct uniform, they will be asked to remove the incorrect item and replace it with the correct uniform. Incorrect jewellery will be confiscated to be collected at the end of the day.

If students do not have an item of uniform with them, or their uniform is damaged or otherwise unwearable, we will supply the necessary items from

our store in Student Services. We have brand new school shoes, trousers, tops, hoodies and other items in a full range of sizes. This is offered free of charge. This ensures that students are always correctly dressed for school.

If students refuse to wear the correct uniform, refuse our offer of free uniform from our stock, or they cannot remove an item, they will be placed in Refocus until the issue can be resolved.

We really appreciate the support of families in ensuring that all our students are correctly dressed for school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Hildrew', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Chris Hildrew
Headteacher