Ashington Academy

Uniform Policy

Review date: December 2024

Date of next review: September 2026

North East Learning Trust

Review history				
Review Date	**Reviewer**	**Approved by**	**Date approved**	**Implementation**
December 2024	D Redshaw	Executive Head	January 2024	January 2024
September 2025	Deputy Headteacher	Executive Head	September 2025	September 2025

Recent revisions		
Issue No.	**Date**	**Revisions made**
2	September 2024	Updated to include reference to the house badge and general appearance
3	December 2024	Updated to include reference to religious head coverings

1. Introduction

Ashington Academy is part of the North East Learning Trust and the uniform policy supports the high standards of the Trust and the Academy. At Ashington Academy we believe that a school uniform plays an important role in creating a focused and respectful learning environment. Our uniform policy is designed to promote equality, reduce distractions, and instil a sense of pride and belonging among students. By wearing the correct uniform, students represent not only themselves but also the values and community of our school. This policy outlines the expectations for student dress and appearance, ensuring consistency and clarity for all members of the school community.

2. Aims

We believe that a clearly defined clearly Academy uniform is important because it:

- **Promotes Equality**
  To create a sense of fairness and reduce peer pressure by minimising visible economic and social differences among students.
- **Encourages a Sense of Belonging**
  To help students feel part of the school community and take pride in representing their school.
- **Supports a Focused Learning Environment**

To reduce distractions and support a professional atmosphere that is conducive to learning and achievement.

- **Enhances Safety and Security**
  To ensure students are easily identifiable as members of the school, both on-site and during off-site activities, improving overall safety.
- **Fosters Discipline and Responsibility**
  To encourage students to take responsibility for their appearance and to understand the importance of following guidelines and expectations.
- **Prepares Students for the Future**
  To help students develop habits of personal presentation that are important in many workplaces and formal environments.

3. Academy Uniform

The school uniform requirements are outlined in the table below, along with details regarding which items are optional and which need to be branded.

General Uniform

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
Blazer with school badge	Required	The blazer is a **branded** item and must be purchased through the uniform supplier. School house badge is provided when students join the Academy.
Shirt	Required	White collared shirt with top button fastened. This must be smartly tucked in. Note: Shirts can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Academy Tie	Required	**Branded** Ashington Academy tie. Supplied to Year 7 students in the first instance.
Jumper	Optional	Navy V-neck jumper with light blue inset and the Academy badge. Note: Only available from the uniform supplier. No other alternatives are acceptable.
Trousers	Required	Charcoal grey tailored school trousers – not leggings, jeans or stretch style. The bottoms of the trouser must be at least 7.5 inches/18 cm wide at the

		bottom. Note: Trousers purchased elsewhere MUST be the same style and fit as those provided by the uniform supplier.
Skirt	Required	Charcoal grey pleated or straight skirt – not tight fitting or stretch material and must be no more than 5 cm above or below the knee. Note: skirts purchased elsewhere MUST be the same style and fit as those provided by the uniform supplier.
Socks/Tights	Required	Socks must be black or grey with trousers. Grey opaque tights must be worn with skirts. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Shoes	Required	Plain black, formal, leather or leather style shoes which can be polished. No trainers, plimsolls, pumps, or boots. Note: Shoes can be purchased from any high-street retailer.

Outerwear

Item	Required/optional	Information
Outside Coats		Can be purchased from any retailer.
Caps		Caps are not to be worn on academy premises.
Woolen Hats	Optional	May be worn between the autumn and spring half terms but must be removed when entering the school building.

PE Kit

Item	Required/optional	Information
Polo shirt	Required	Note: **Branded** polo shirt only available from the uniform supplier.
Bottoms	Required	Navy shorts/tracksuit bottoms/black sports leggings. Note: It is required for students to have at least one of these items.

Mid layer top	Optional	
Hoodie	Optional	
Rain jacket	Optional	
Skort	Optional	
Sports sock	Optional	
Black base layer	Optional	

PE Footwear

PE Footwear		
Trainers	Required	Note: Trainers with non-marking soles are to be worn in the sports hall.
Studded Boots	Optional	Note: Students can wear studded boots when participating in certain activities on the grass.
Moulded boots and Astro trainers	Optional	Note: Are allowed on the 3G sports pitch. However, metal studs, blades and flat sole trainers are not accepted.
Plimsolls, Converse, or canvas type shoes		Not suitable footwear for PE and should not be worn.

General Appearance

General Appearance	Blazers should be worn at all times, unless specific permission is given by a member of staff to remove them. Shirts should be tucked in. Students must wear their jumper (if worn) over their trousers or skirt (not tucked in). Belts (if worn) should be plain. Only school related badges to be worn on the school blazer e.g. house and reward badges. Students may also wear badges to commemorate national events at the relevant time of the year e.g. a poppy in the lead up to Remembrance Day.
Hair	Hair should be a natural colour (one colour only). Hair extensions are not permitted. The Academy reserves the right to decide that the cut and colour of a student's hair is

	inappropriate. Tramlines, Mohicans, extreme short sides, longer on top are examples of styles that are deemed inappropriate. Hair bands should be thin and not overly decorated e.g. no large flowers.
Religious Head coverings	Students may wear religious head coverings or garments (e.g. hijabs, turbans, kippahs) as part of their uniform, provided they are plain black or navy and meet health and safety standards.
Jewellery	Students are permitted to wear one stud in each earlobe. No other jewellery (this includes necklaces, bracelets and/or rings) or visible body piercings are allowed. Students will not be allowed to cover body piercings with Elastoplast. Parents must ensure that if a child is to have a piercing it must take place at the start of the six weeks' holiday and must be removed on the first day of term.
Make-Up	Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 can wear discreet, natural make-up. The Academy reserves the right to decide whether the amount of make-up a student is applying is inappropriate. Students are not permitted to wear false, gel or acrylic nails and/or garishly coloured nail varnish. For health and safety reasons nails need to be a sensible length, False eyelashes are not permitted. No fake tan is permitted.
Tattoos	Tattoos which are visible are not permitted. Any student aged 18 or over with a visible tattoo will need to keep it covered up. It is illegal to have a tattoo below the age of 18.
Clothing	Large fashion belts are not acceptable or part of the Academy uniform. Hoods must not be worn inside the Academy.
Equipment	All students are expected to come to the Academy with: • a bag large enough to carry an A4 file (backpacks are recommended) • a pencil case containing pen, pencil, ruler, and rubber Tutors and Year Managers will carry out equipment checks regularly Where a student repeatedly fails to bring the correct equipment to the Academy, his/her name will be passed on to the appropriate Year Manager. From then onwards, the Year Manager will apply a range of sanctions to ensure that the student brings the correct equipment to the Academy. These

	sanctions might include detentions, parental contact, internal exclusions etc.

Sixth form dress code

Our dress code is smart office wear which entails:

- Blouse/dress shirt (collared).
- Tailored trousers (no jeans/tracksuits).
- Tailored skirt (minimum knee length).
- Jumper / cardigan.
- Smart shoes (not trainers/pumps).
- No extreme hairstyles. Hair colour and make-up should be subtle.
- Tattoos must not be visible.
- No facial piercing allowed other than subtle ear piercing.
- No extreme levels of jewellery to be worn in school.
- Coats/hoodies/hats should not be worn inside the building

The Academy reserves the right to make the final decision on what is acceptable and what is not acceptable.

Pre-loved School uniform

In an effort to ensure affordability and ease the financial pressures involved in purchasing uniform for our parents/guardians and their families, we have established a 'Pre-Loved School Uniform Shop'. This is also a means of reducing the amount of clothing that is wasted and sent to landfill, thus protecting the environment, and reducing our carbon footprint.

Students and families will then be able to obtain any items of uniform they need from Miss McQuillan in the Uniform Stop.

The following items of uniform can be donated and are gratefully received:

General Uniform	**PE**
School Blazer	PE Top
School Skirts	PE Bottoms
School Trousers	
School Shorts	

White shirts (long or short sleeved)	
Black school shoes – good condition, male and female	
School Tie	

As part of the Home School Agreement our students and parents/guardians agree to conform to the uniform requirements of the school. Therefore, if parents/guardians or students are in doubt about whether or not a particular article of clothing is suitable, or before making any decisions about altering hair colour or style, we ask that they contact their child's Year Manager prior to any change.

Dissemintation of the policy

This policy is available on the school website, on request to parents/guardians, the Local Authority and Ofsted.

Other policies that have relevance are:
• Admissions and Appeals
• Equality Policy
• Health and Safety
• Complaints Policy
• Behaviour Policy

Ordering the academy uniform

Uniform can be ordered here:

Or in store at: Emblematic Ltd, 30 Glebe Road, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 6JT, Tel No. 01670 820 262.