



Accrington Academy

Uniform Policy 26/27

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Person responsible	John Paul Fagan
Approval Level – Principal	Oliver Walker

Linked Policies:

- Behaviour for Learning Policy

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Introduction

Our policy is that all children should wear clothing that is in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos. We also believe that certain school activities are facilitated by specialised and appropriate clothing (including organised events outside normal school hours).

Aims and compliance with DfE guidance on compulsory branded items (Sept 26)

Our policy is based on DfE guidelines and also the belief that a school uniform:

- Promotes a sense of pride in the school and engenders a feeling of belonging
- Is practical and distinctive
- Identifies the children with the school
- Is not distracting in class (as fashion clothing might be)
- Makes children feel equal to one another in terms of appearance
- Reflects the sense of community and of diversity that the school takes great pride, in-line with our TEAM values
- Is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents
- Reduces opportunities for bullying to occur

From September 2026 secondary schools must limit the number of compulsory branded items of uniform and PE kit to 4 or fewer, if one is a tie. Accrington Academy identifies these compulsory branded items as the following, with **all students** expected to wear these without exception:-

- Academy branded blazer
- Academy branded tie (colour dependent on year group)
- Academy PE shirt
- Academy PE shorts, tracksuit bottoms or leggings

All other items of uniform (as listed in uniform expectations below) must be adhered to but can be non-branded and purchased from either a designated uniform supplier, local shops or supermarkets.

Uniform Expectations

All Students

- Blazer with Accrington Academy Logo. Blazer to be worn at all times around the Academy, unless permission given by a teacher.
- Plain white shirts, short or long sleeved. Polo-type shirts are not permitted
- Students may not wear visible t-shirts underneath their shirts
- Shirts must be buttoned up to the collar and tucked into trousers
- Shirt collars must be worn turned down
- Clip on Accrington Academy tie in the appropriate year group colour
- Plain black socks (*boys*).
- Ankle or below the knee **plain black or white** socks, with no frills or sports logos or plain black tights (*girls*)
- Plain black leather shoes with no brand markings or coloured laces. No trainers/pumps or boots allowed
- Outdoor coats without any large emblems and with no 'hoodie' style inserts
- School bag or rucksack must be brought every day, large enough to carry equipment and books, no handbags

Boys

- Plain black trousers - Signature boys classic black trousers
- Plain black belt. No big buckles
- Black socks

Girls

- Plain black pleated skirt worn no shorter than knee length –
- Plain loose, straight legged, black trousers - Signature girls classic trousers
- Ankle or below the knee plain black or white socks (No frills or sports logos).
- Plain black tights
- Hijabs must be plain navy or black with no other colour or decoration

Uniform checks are conducted every morning during line ups and throughout the day by staff around the corridors and on arrival to and exit from lessons.

Prohibited Uniform Items

All our students must be safe and have high standards of dress at all times. For these reasons, the following items are not permitted and should not be worn or brought to the academy. All staff will confiscate such items consistently.

- No jewellery may be worn in school, including facial piercings of any kind (e.g. lip/nose/tongue/eyelid etc). Students are permitted 1 plain stud in each ear lobe **only**.
- The use of plastic retainers and all other jewellery items **are not permitted**, even temporarily and students will be expected to remove these items immediately.
- Hairstyles should be sensible. This means no lines shaved into hair, 'pattern cuts', shaved, or excessively coloured hair (natural colour only). No inappropriate styles allowed. No dip dyes (ombre styles) are allowed. No different coloured extensions allowed (either braided or dyed).
- Any hair clips or beads should be simple and plainly coloured
- Hoodies
- Denim jackets
- Any item of clothing that displays offensive or inappropriate imagery or language
- Any type of hat or cap*
- Sports socks (unless being used in PE lessons)
- Bandanas, headbands, afro combs and combs
- Make-up or fake tan
- Nail varnish and or nail extensions
- Fake eyes lashes
- Tattoos including henna tattoos
- Chewing gum
- Energy drinks / drinks in glass bottles
- Laser pens
- Lollipops
- Family sized snacks
- Any other item deemed to be in breach of our uniform or behaviour policy by the Senior Leadership Team will be confiscated.

Failure to adhere to the uniform policy or refusing to hand over a banned uniform item may result in the student being placed in ARC24 or AIC and the parent/carers contacted.

Procedures for students not wearing correct uniform

Uniform is checked thoroughly at line-ups each morning. If, for any reason, a student is unable to wear full Academy uniform, they will be provided with/ expected to wear a uniform item provided by the Academy uniform shop (located at our Student Reception). This is a loaned item, and the student is expected to return the item of uniform at the end of the day.

Full uniform is expected to be worn when students walk to and from the Academy at the start and end of each school day. Staff on duty before and after school will challenge any student breaching these rules as they enter/leave the Academy site.

If a student refuses to correct uniform or hand in a prohibited uniform item, they will be placed into ARC24 or AIC for the day and will serve a detention until 4pm, or until the uniform is corrected or item is handed in. Refusal to go to isolation will result in suspension for non-compliance with Academy uniform policy.

A support call to the parent/carer will be made to discuss to uniform breach in order for school/home to work together to ensure the issue can be resolved. Where a uniform item is missing or needs to be removed (e.g., a piercing) we may also ask a parent/carer to come into the Academy to support, by either bringing the missing item into school or by collecting the child to correct the uniform issue at home, before returning them to school.

Where a parent has provided (in written form) evidence of a medical reason stating valid reason that their child cannot wear the correct uniform or a uniform item, a uniform pass will be issued. These passes are reviewed daily.

Confiscated Items

Items taken from students during the school day are taken to/logged at our Student Reception and usually returned to students **at 3.15pm**. However, where a student persistently brings/uses banned items during school hours, the parent/carer may be requested to come to collect the item.

This does not include mobile phones, electronic devices, air pods or headphones. These items, if confiscated, are taken to/logged at our Student Reception with the student receiving a 30-cominute afterschool detention and are not returned to students **until 3.30pm**. The Academy reserves the right to request a parent/carer collects an item, rather than this being returned to a student if it is deemed to be offensive or dangerous in nature. Unclaimed items are sent to lost property in the reception area at each half term.

Academy Equipment

It is crucial that students arrive at the Academy prepared to learn with correct equipment. The following items are compulsory:

- Suitable school bag (to hold A4 books and folders)
- Clear plastic pencil case
- Reading book
- Black or blue pen (at least two)
- Pencils
- Eraser
- Ruler
- Scientific Calculator
- Highlighter

The above items are part of the school uniform and as such are deemed as non-negotiables. All students will be provided with basic stationary and a pencil case at the start of the academic year. Not having the correct equipment impacts teaching and learning in the classroom. Sanctions will be applied to students who are not bringing the above equipment into the Academy each day and are consistently needing to borrow loaned-school equipment.

Additional desirable equipment includes:

- Coloured pencils
- Protractor
- Glue stick
- Water bottle

PE Kit (and guidance for students wearing PE Kit on their timetabled PE day)

PE kit is a compulsory part of school uniform even if the student is unable to take part in the lesson (e.g. due to an injury etc). From September 2026 we will be trialling students **arriving to school and remaining in their PE kit and trainers on their scheduled timetabled PE lesson days**. This will be an expectation of all students and will alleviate changing time, thus increasing PE learning time.

On PE days students will be expected to arrive in adherence to the PE kit policy outlined below, **with their blazer worn on top**.

Students are **expected to bring their school uniform in their school bag**, and should there be inclement weather students will have the option to change into this prior to moving to their next lesson.

All Students PE Kit

Boys	Girls
• Trainers - non marking running trainers for indoor sports. • Football boots (plastic blades/moulds) for lessons on the 4G pitch. • Navy Accrington Academy logo polo shirt. • Navy Accrington Academy logo shorts or trousers. • Plain navy knee-high football socks. • Plain navy long sleeved $\frac{3}{4}$ drill jacket (optional). • Plain black or navy swimming shorts.	• Trainers - non marking running trainers for indoor sports. • Football boots (plastic blades/moulds) for lessons on the 4G pitch. • Navy Accrington Academy logo polo shirt. • Navy Accrington Academy logo shorts, trousers or leggings. • Plain navy knee-high football socks. • Plain navy long sleeved $\frac{3}{4}$ drill jacket (optional). • Plain black or navy swimming costume.

We also recommend that: -

- Students bring both trainers and football boots to school. If there scheduled lesson is an outdoor one as the lesson may change should health and safety become a concern.
- Students wear shin pads for Football and a mouthguard for Rugby.

PE Policy:

- Students will be provided with a kit from PE supplies to borrow if they do have correct kit.
- A 30-minute sanction will be imposed by the PE department for students who fail to bring a PE kit, persistently fail to bring full PE kit or refuse to adhere to the PE kit policy.
- Students who are unable to participate in PE for medical reasons must bring a note, however they are still required to wear their kit (not a parental decision) as they can assist with other elements of the lesson, such as coaching and/or officiating. Failure to comply will result in a 30-minute sanction for borrowed kit on the same evening.
- No jewellery may be worn during PE, this includes watches. If a student leaves the changing room with jewellery on, as per our school uniform policy, the member of staff will confiscate these items and hand into Student Reception. Students will be expected to stay until 3.15pm to collect these due to delay and disruption caused to the PE lesson.
- Students will always be asked to take earrings out for PE and still participate. Any removable jewellery must be removed. If earrings cannot be removed, then they must be covered with plasters (which students should bring with them).
- Students are also expected to wear their hair tied back to follow health and safety regulations for the subject.
- For Health and Safety reasons, Hijabs are required to be fitted and suitable for sport.

- We are mindful that students may need to bring belongings into school which they do not wish to leave in the changing rooms. It is a student's responsibility to make sure that any valuable items are handed in to the teacher at the start of the lesson, these items will be locked securely in the PE office.

Lost Property

All clothing should be marked with the student's name. There is a lost property claim at the end of each half term. Items not collected will be disposed of. Unclaimed uniform items will be donated to our pre-Loved stock.

Role of the Class Teachers and Support Staff

- To uphold our uniform policy, ensuring that students are in correct uniform and challenge any infringements, sanctioning accordingly.
- Form tutors and teachers will check uniform upon entry/exit from every lesson and also on corridors to ensure it is appropriate. If uniform is deemed to be missing or incorrect the student will be referred to Student Reception for a replacement item. Students will be sanctioned for consistent uniform infringements.

Role of the Head of Year and SLT link

- The role of Head of Year and SLT link is to ensure that students comply with the Uniform Policy agreed by the Governing Body through AM line-up uniform checks, on entry through allocated entry door and throughout the school day.
- If on arrival a student is deemed to have incorrect or missing uniform, they will be intercepted by the SLT link/HOY and escorted to student Reception prior to registration where they will be asked to correct their uniform. Students will be sanctioned accordingly as per Behaviour Policy for repeated offences or refusal to correct.
- The Head of Year and SLT link have a duty to enforce the school uniform policy fairly and consistently throughout the school community.
- The Head of Year and/or SLT link will speak to the parent/carer of any student who persistently does not wear the correct uniform.

Role of the Parents/Carers

- To ensure that their child adheres to the school's Uniform Policy in full, every day
- To ensure that their child arrive to school in correct uniform everyday unless there are special circumstances such as non-uniform days
- To ensure their child does not wear or bring into school any banned uniform items
- To ensure that they have all equipment for the day
- To support the school in sanctioning students who do not follow Academy uniform rules

Equalities

All children have equal access to wearing school uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. We ensure that the set uniform respects other policies such as Equalities and allows for individual sets of circumstances of all groups and individuals. Accrington Academy is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from racial intimidation and harassment and to achieve their full potential.

Complaints Procedure

Any parents/carers who wish to make a complaint regarding the uniform can do so in writing to the Headteacher. The Governing Body may be involved in particular cases if a satisfactory outcome is still not reached with the intervention of the Headteacher.

Equality Impact Assessment

We have a duty to consider the impact of changes on groups with Protected Characteristics (race, disability, age, sex, sexual orientation, religion or belief, gender reassignment, pregnancy and maternity, marriage and civil partnership). An EIA needs to consider:

- *Would the change impact differentially on students/staff with protected characteristics? Positively or negatively?*
- *How do I know that?*
- *What could I do to mitigate any differential or negative impact?*
- *Is this still the right thing to do?*

<i>What are the overall aims of the change? Why are you proposing it?</i>	The aim of this policy is to provide a framework to ensure that the policy has the procedures and guidelines in place to ensure that all stakeholders are fully supported.
<i>Given the aims of your proposal what issues does your data/ information highlight?</i>	Everybody is included within this policy, and all groups are given equability in regard to their needs and provisions.
<i>How could the proposed change impact positively/ negatively on groups with protected characteristics?</i>	This has a positive impact on all groups with protected characteristics as they are ensured equal treatment and provision based on their needs. Risk assessments may be carried out to ensure that this is the case and provisions maybe altered to accommodate specific needs.
<i>What actions will you take to mitigate any negative impact?</i>	No negative impact to having this policy.
<i>Is any potential negative impact justified in light of the wider benefits of the proposal?</i>	No negative impact to having this policy.
<i>Recording final decision</i>	This policy will go to governors for approval.

Incorporate any actions identified into overall academy level strategic/ action plans, as appropriate.