

Uniform Policy and Rules about how to Dress for School at Downham Market Academy



1. Why we have this policy.

We have a policy in order to make clear that all students should wear the correct uniform at all times, to indicate what is permitted to wear and what is not permitted and to explain the process to follow when a student does not have correct uniform, including sanctions that will be applied if appropriate.

2. What to wear

- 2.1 Students must wear correct uniform at all times and all property should be clearly labelled with their name. See the Uniform List for full details of the School Uniform; *Navy blazer with academy logo, white shirt tucked in, house tie, grey trousers or skirt, navy V-neck jumper with academy logo and plain black shoes*
- 2.2 Smart shorts (no casual styles of fabrics) may be worn at any time during the year, as an alternative to trousers/skirts. They should be grey and approximately knee length or longer.
- 2.3 Socks of any colour and style may be worn, although black, charcoal grey and navy socks are recommended.
- 2.4 The wearing of a small amount of makeup, discreetly applied, is permitted in Years 9, 10 and 11.
- 2.5 Clear, nude or French manicure nail varnish that is natural in appearance.
- 2.6 One small stud earring may be worn in each ear and a watch may be worn. These are the only items of jewellery permitted.
- 2.7 Black, brown or navy belt with a discreet buckle.
- 2.8 In poor weather e.g. snow, the School will advise students about appropriate footwear. At any time students can, of course, wear, say, boots to school and then change into their plain black shoes, provided they do so as soon as they arrive at school without being prompted by staff.
- 2.9 Plain black, school-wear shoes, including black trainers (with no logos, tick or stripes)
- 2.10 Tights are optional. If worn, they should be natural tan, plain black or plain charcoal grey.

3. What is not permitted

- 3.1 Tops, for example, T-shirts and vests, should not be visible under the school shirt. For this reason, coloured T-shirts and vests or those with writing on that render them visible must not be worn under the white school shirt.
- 3.2 Coats must not be worn in classrooms, unless there are exceptional circumstances, as decided by the teacher. If coats are worn without permission this will be treated as defiance and they will be issued an end of day detention.
- 3.3 The wearing of makeup is not permitted in Years 7 and 8. If makeup is worn a makeup wipe will be provided to remove the makeup.
- 3.4 Brightly coloured or patterned nail varnish, including false nails and extensions.
- 3.5 No jewellery, other than one small stud in each ear and a watch, is permitted
- 3.6 Large belt buckles with brands and/or logos.

- 3.7 Hats must not be worn inside the school buildings. If a hat is worn inside the school building this will be treated as defiance and they will be issued an end of day detention.
- 3.8 Extreme hair styles and colours are not permitted. Students may not dye their hair a colour that is not natural (for example blue, green, pink etc.). Academy staff will decide whether a hair style is extreme but examples of extreme hair styles are patterns shaved into the hair and "Mohicans". A student who is thinking of a particular hair style but is unsure whether it would be allowed should check with a member of the Senior Leadership Team before they have it done.
- 3.9 No shoes, other than plain black, are permitted. Shoes must not bear logos, ticks, stripes etc., and if there is a heel it should be low, for reasons of safety. Boots, sandals and fashion shoes such as sling-backs, kitten heels and court shoes etc., are not permitted.

4. What happens if a student is incorrectly dressed?

- 4.1 If a student cannot wear the correct uniform for any reason, the parent/carer must provide their child with a note on the first day explaining the problem and the date by which their child will be back in correct uniform. We expect a student to be back in the correct uniform within 2 or 3 days. During that time, students will borrow the correct uniform from the school to ensure that the correct uniform is worn at all times.
- 4.2 If a student has a genuine reason for being incorrectly dressed but was unable to bring a note from the parent, for example due to the parent leaving the house early, the student will borrow correct uniform from the school and the student must bring in a parents' note for the form tutor the next day to explain the non-compliance.
- 4.3 Any student not in the correct uniform should report to isolation straight away in the morning to borrow school uniform for the day.
- 4.4 If a student is wearing incorrect uniform and has no note from the parent with no genuine reason, the student will borrow uniform from the school and the student will be given a one-hour detention after school that day. Where a parent is unable to rectify the problem due to financial hardship, the Academy may be able to provide financial support.
- 4.5 A student who wears incorrect uniform 3 times without good reason, will spend a day in the Isolation Room.
- 4.6 Refusal to wear the correct uniform, including refusal to wear clean clothing lent by the Academy, will be treated as defiance and this is likely to result in a fixed term exclusion.
- 4.7 Students with extreme hair styles may be required to spend an extended period of time in the Isolation Room until the problem is resolved.

Reviewed: July 2018

Date of next review: July 2019