



DOWNHAM MARKET
ACADEMY

Uniform Policy

September 2020

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

1. Why we have this policy

We believe that a uniform helps to give young people a sense of identity and belonging to the Academy community.

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. Students must wear correct uniform at all times and all property should be clearly labelled with their name.

2. What to wear

2.1 The following items must be purchased from the Academy uniform supplier:

- Navy blazer with Academy logo
 - As an alternative to the blazer, students in Year 11 can wear a DMA Leavers' Hoodie from the official uniform supplier. Other sweatshirts are not acceptable
- Tie in House colour
- Navy V-neck jumper with Academy logo
- PE polo shirt and/or PE rugby top with Academy logo and House colour side panels
- PE quarter zip fleece top with Academy logo and House colour side panels

2.2 The following items must be worn but can be purchased from alternative sources:

- White shirt tucked in and top button fastened (short or long sleeved)
- Grey trousers (tailored, not tight-fitting, stretchy or denim)
or
- Grey skirt (straight fit, worn at knee length)
or
- Grey shorts (smart style, knee length)
- Plain black shoes (trainers are acceptable but must not have any visible logos, colours, ticks or stripes)
- Plain black PE shorts/leggings and/or tracksuit bottoms
- Plain black rugby/football socks
- Plain black baselayer to be worn under PE shirt (optional)
- Indoor trainers or studded boots depending on sports activity
- Plain black, fitted t-shirt, leggings for dance
- Protective items such as gum shields and shin pads

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 (no smart watches) 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 Academy will advise students about appropriate footwear. At any time students can, of course, wear boots (for example) to school and then change into their plain black shoes, provided they do so as soon as they arrive at the Academy without being prompted by staff.

2.9 Tights are optional. If worn, they should be natural tan, plain black or plain charcoal grey.

2.10 All students should be fully equipped for lessons and must have the following items with them at all times:

- Pens (at least two, black or blue ink)
- Pencils
- Ruler
- Eraser
- Sharpener
- Scientific calculator
- Glue stick
- Highlighters
- Maths equipment including a protractor, compass, set square

2.11 If you wish your child to wear alternative items of clothing for religious or cultural reasons, please contact the Academy to discuss directly

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 students 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 Excessive makeup, for example false eyelashes is not permitted for any student. Academy staff will determine what constitutes "excessive"

3.5 Brightly coloured or patterned nail varnish, including false nails and extensions.

3.6 No jewellery, other than one small stud in each ear and a watch, is permitted. Retainer bars are not acceptable for facial piercings

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 students 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.

3.10 Permanent and temporary tattoos such as “henna” 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 the Isolation Room straight away in the morning to borrow Academy 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 at the end of the 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 may 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: June 2020

Date of next review: July 2021