

BLACKFRIARS ACADEMY

UNIFORM POLICY

Revised: Dec 25

Review Date: Dec 28



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1. Aims

This policy aims to:

Set out our approach to requiring a uniform that is of reasonable cost and offers the best value for money for parents and carers

Explain how we will avoid discrimination in line with our legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

Demonstrate that we understand the different needs of our students and that uniform needs to be adapted in individual circumstances

Clarify our expectations for school uniform

2. Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 prohibits discrimination based on protected characteristics (sex, race, religion or belief, gender reassignment, disability). To comply, our school will:

- Avoid listing uniform items by sex, allowing pupils to choose items they feel comfortable in.
- Ensure uniform costs are the same for all pupils.
- Allow hairstyles that reflect cultural identity and prevent hair discrimination.
- Permit religious and cultural symbols (e.g., headscarves).
- Make reasonable adjustments for SEND and respond to requests via the SENCO.

3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

We will ensure our uniform is affordable and complies with the **Education (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021** and forthcoming **Children's Wellbeing and Schools Bill (Sept 2026)**. Key measures:

- Limit compulsory branded items to a maximum of **3** (or 4 for secondary if one is a tie).
- Avoid unnecessary distinctive characteristics and allow purchase from multiple retailers.
- Operate a **second-hand uniform scheme** and publish cost details annually.
- Consult parents and pupils on significant changes.
- Review exclusive supplier contracts via **competitive tendering at least every 5 years**.

4. Expectations for school uniform

We take great pride in our uniform and the appearance of our students. Please ensure that you always wear the correct academy uniform at all times and that all items are labelled

- Sky blue polo shirt (with logo)
- Navy sweatshirt or cardigan (with logo)
- Black / grey trousers, knee length skirt
- Black school shoes (trainers are not allowed unless a doctor's note is provided)
- Only stud earrings, if worn

PE Kit and house colours

- House colour t-shirt
(Red for Jaguar, Yellow for Panther and Green for Tiger)
- Black / navy shorts
- Pumps or trainers kept in a named PE Bag
- Swimming costume with towel and swimming cap in named swimming bag
- No jewellery to be worn for PE

Stockists of our uniform are:

Clive Mark Schoolwear

<https://clivemark.co.uk/>

13-14 Lancaster Building (Opposite the Post Office) High Street, Newcastle Under Lyme, ST5 1PG
01782 980 676

My Clothing

<https://myclothing.com/collections/blackfriars-academy-main-uniform-10560>

We also have preloved school uniform items available in school to purchase for a small donation if you wish to pop in.

Years 7-11	Sky Blue Polo Shirt	Black / grey trousers or black / grey knee length skirt	Black school shoes (trainers are not allowed unless a doctors note is provided)	Navy sweatshirt or cardigan (with logo)	Only stud earrings (if worn)
PE Kit / Swimming Kit	House colour t-shirt: (Red for Jaguars, Yellow for Panthers and Green for Tigers)	Black / navy shorts	Pumps or trainers kept in a named PE bag	Swimming costume with towel and swimming cap in named swimming bag	No jewellery to be worn for PE

5. Expectations for our school community

5.1 Pupils

Pupils are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times (other than specified non-school uniform days) while:

On the school premises

Travelling to and from school

At out-of-school events or on trips that are organised by the school, or where they are representing the school, unless otherwise specified

Pupils are also expected to contact the Principal if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to their protected characteristics.

5.2 Parents and carers

Parents and carers are expected to make sure their child has the correct uniform, swim kit and PE kit, and that every item is:

Clean

Clearly labelled with the child's name

In good condition

Parents are expected to lodge any complaints or objections relating to the school uniform in a timely and reasonable manner.

Disputes about the cost of the school uniform will be:

Resolved locally

Dealt with in accordance with our school's complaints policy

The school will work closely with parents to arrive at a mutually acceptable outcome.

5.3 Academy Council

The Academy Council will review this policy and make sure that it:

Is appropriate for our school's context

Is implemented fairly across the school

Takes into account the views of parents and pupils

Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all pupils

The board will also make sure that the school's uniform supplier arrangements give the highest priority to cost and value for money, for example by avoiding single supplier contracts and by re-tendering contracts at least every 5 years.

6. Monitoring arrangements

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years. At every review, it will be approved by the Academy Council

7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- Equality information and objectives statement