



Lincolnshire Gateway
Academies Trust

**SECONDARY ACADEMIES'
UNIFORM POLICY**

Date reviewed:	May 2023	
Approved by:	LGB	TBC
Next review due by:	May 2026	



Our uniform policy has been updated, following the publication of recent documents by the Department for Education, which include the following:

- Guidance on school uniforms, updated 19 November 2021
- Statutory Guidance – cost of school uniforms, updated 19 November 2021

Why is it important to have a uniform policy?

The DfE strongly encourages schools to have a uniform policy as it can play a key role in:

- promoting the ethos of a school
- providing a sense of belonging and identity
- setting an appropriate tone for education.

The DfE guidance also states that: 'By creating a common identity amongst all pupils, regardless of background, a school uniform can act as a social leveller. It can reduce bullying and peer pressure to wear the latest fashions or other expensive clothes. If, however, the uniform is too expensive it can place an unreasonable burden on families.'

The Governors for the Lincolnshire Gateways Academies Trust schools agree that an Academy uniform provides a school with a sense of belonging and pride in the Academy's community. It also contributes significantly to the ethos of the Academy and sets the right tone for learning and communicates high standards.

It has been decided that all children should wear clothing that is in keeping with a purposeful learning ethos and is based on the following principles:

- promotes a sense of pride amongst the children in the Academy
- engenders a feeling of community and belonging
- is practical and smart
- identifies children with the Academy
- is not distracting in class
- makes children feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance
- is regarded as suitable, and good value for money, by most parents and carers
- has been designed with health and safety in mind
- impacts positively on attitudes to learning.

What factors have been considered when producing the uniform policy?

In developing the uniform policy, leaders are aware of their responsibility to ensure they comply with the Human Rights Act 1998 and Equality Act 2010 and take into account key considerations such as safeguarding requirements and the health and safety of their pupils.

In addition, and based on the recent guidance, consideration has also been given to aspects such as:

- The cost of uniform
- Branded clothing and items with logos
- Opportunities and provision for second hand uniform purchases.

Every academy has a duty to make sure the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory guidance from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items or those that have to have a school logo) cannot be purchased from a wide range of retailers and that requiring many such items limits parents' ability to 'shop around' for a low price.

What will we do to ensure our uniform is available at a reasonable cost and provides good value for money?

We will:

- carefully consider whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary.
- limit items with distinctive characteristics where possible. We only require the Academy logo on our blazer, tie and physical education kit.
- avoid different uniform requirements for different year groups.
- avoid frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes.
- consult with parents and students on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy; carefully considering any complaints that are made about the policy.

What are our expectations for our LGAT secondary academy uniforms?

All students in Year groups 7 through to 11 are expected to wear their uniform correctly and in accordance with this Uniform Policy.

To maintain quality, standards and value for money, Academy blazers, skirts and ties are only available from Uniform Direct.

An acceptable outdoor coat and scarf/hat/gloves may be worn as prevailing weather demands (no extreme logos). We recommend that students wear a reflective band in the winter months.

- Black blazer with academy badge (in academy-specific colour)
- Black smart tailored trousers (NOT tightly fitted to the leg or cropped to the ankle) or a Cleethorpes Academy skirt, worn knee length, with either black tights or socks.
- Plain white traditional shirt (not fitted) with top button fastened.
- Academy tie (in academy-specific colour)
- Plain black (no badge) fine-knit, V-neck jumper (optional but must be worn under blazer).
- Plain white or black ankle socks (not trainer socks).
- Black, flat shoes (maximum heel height 6cm at the back). Please note that trainers, trainer style shoes, canvas shoes or boots are NOT acceptable.
- A rucksack backpack with two shoulder straps large enough to fit an A4 file without it being folded, school books and stationary equipment including a pencil case.

The following are NOT allowed at all in an academy:

- Coats with offensive logos/badges.
- Denim or leather/leather look or knitted coats/jackets.

- Coloured T-shirts or bras or T-shirts with logos under an Academy shirt (if a T-shirt is worn under a shirt it must be plain white).
- Sweatshirts/jumpers which are not Academy uniform.
- Sweatshirts/hoodies/zipped jumpers/cardigans/clothing made of sweatshirt material (with or without hoods), are not considered as coats and may not be worn.
- 'Sports' type jackets/coats.
- Jeans or jeans-type trousers.
- Boots of any kind, sandals, canvas shoes, trainers (except for PE), trainer shoes.
- Nail varnish, gel nails, false nails, tattoos, temporary tattoos or make-up (discreet make-up is allowed in Year 11).
- Jewellery (except for wristwatches). Earrings - only one small stud per ear, watches – all jewellery must be removed for PE activities).
- Nose/eyebrow/tongue or any other form of body piercing.
- Hairstyles which are extreme (NO vivid or two-tone hair colours, NO cuts shorter than a number 1 razor setting, NO patterns cut into hair, NO beaded braids or braids with cotton/material weaves, NO extensions which do not match natural hair colour.
- Any hairstyles that have a change in hair length must be blended. Hairstyles must be graduated with no 'stepped' patterns or lines. Mohican hairstyles are not acceptable. This includes stepped haircuts similar to the different styles of Mohican haircuts.
- Beards or moustaches, or sideburns below the earlobes.
- Large belt buckles or studded/patterned belts (only plain black belts permitted).
- 'Smart' watches.

EACH ACADEMY CAN ACCEPT NO LIABILITY FOR THE LOSS OF, OR DAMAGE TO, ANY PERSONAL PROPERTY, INCLUDING JEWELLERY. THIS ALSO APPLIES TO CONFISCATED ITEMS.

ACADEMY SPORTSWEAR

To maintain the quality and standards of the PE kit, the items in **bold** are only available from Uniform Direct.

Physical Education kit:

Compulsory:

- **Reversible capped rugby shirt in Academy-specific colours**
- **Polo shirt with Academy logo in Academy-specific colours**
- **Football shorts or skorts with Academy logo in Academy-specific colour.**
- **Sports socks with Academy logo in Academy-specific colours**
- Football boots
- Training shoes
- Shin pads
- Towel

Optional:

- Unbranded tracksuit bottoms in Academy specific colour
- Unbranded leggings in Academy specific colour
- Unbranded base layer top in Academy specific colour
- Swimming costume for showers.

FINALLY

Please feel able to contact each academy **BEFORE** purchasing any items of uniform if you have any doubts about whether it is acceptable as Academy dress.