



**Bedlington
Academy**

Uniform Policy

review date: December 2024

Date of next review: September 2026



**North East
Learning Trust**

Review history

Review Date	Reviewer	Approved by	Date approved	Implementation
December 2024	D Redshaw	Head of School	January 2024	January 2024
September 2026	S Collins	Head of School	September 2026	September 2026

Recent revisions

Issue No.	Date	Revisions made
2	September 2020	Additional information regarding appropriate trousers. Removal of reference to school blazer and black jumper
3	December 2024	Updated to include reference to religious head coverings

1. Introduction

Bedlington Academy is part of the North East Learning Trust and the uniform policy supports the high standards of the Trust and the Academy. At Bedlington Academy we believe that a school uniform plays an important role in creating a focused and respectful learning environment. Our uniform policy is designed to promote equality, reduce distractions, and instill a sense of pride and belonging among students. By wearing the correct uniform, students represent not only themselves but also the values and community of our school. This policy outlines the expectations for student dress and appearance, ensuring consistency and clarity for all members of the school community.

2. Aims

We believe that a clearly defined Academy uniform is important because it:

- **Promote Equality**

To create a sense of fairness and reduce peer pressure by minimising visible economic and social differences among students.

- **Encourage a Sense of Belonging**

To help students feel part of the school community and take pride in representing their school.

- **Support a Focused Learning Environment**

To reduce distractions and support a professional atmosphere that is conducive to learning and achievement.

- **Enhance Safety and Security**

To ensure students are easily identifiable as members of the school, both on-site and during off-site activities, improving overall safety.

- **Foster Discipline and Responsibility**

To encourage students to take responsibility for their appearance and to understand the importance of following guidelines and expectations.

- **Prepare Students for the Future**

To help students develop habits of personal presentation that are important in many workplaces and formal environments.

3. Academy Uniform

The school uniform requirements are outlined in the table below, along with details regarding which items are optional and which need to be branded.

General Uniform

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
Blazer	Required	Dark green blazer with embroidered Academy badge. The blazer is a branded item and must be purchased through the uniform supplier. Blazers should be worn at all times, unless specific permission is given by a member of staff to remove them.
Shirt	Required	Plain white school shirt (short or long sleeve) buttoned to the neck. This must be smartly tucked in. Note: Shirts can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Academy Tie	Required	Branded Bedlington Academy tie. Green and gold school tie for Year 7-9; green and silver school tie for Years 1-11.

Jumper	Optional	Grey V-neck jumper or cardigan with the Academy badge. Note: Only available from the uniform supplier. No other alternatives are acceptable. Jumpers must be worn under the school blazer only.
Trousers	Required	Plain black, formal full-length straight cut trousers - 'regular' or 'straight' fit. Must be at least 7.5inches/18cm wide at the bottom. No denim, leggings or super slim / skinny style. Note: Trousers may be purchased from a range of suppliers, including Emblematic. Should parents choose to purchase trousers from other suppliers, then the style and cut of the trousers should be the same as those provided by Emblematic.
Skirt	Required	Pleated or straight pencil skirt - not tight fitting or stretch material and must be no more than one inch above the knee. Skirts must not be rolled at the waist or shortened.
Socks/Tights	Required	Black ankle socks must be worn with trousers. Black opaque tights must be worn with skirts. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Shoes	Required	Plain black, formal, leather or leather style shoes which can be polished. No trainers, plimsolls, pumps, or boots. Note: Shoes can be purchased from any high-street retailer. Please see our leaflet which details appropriate shoe styles.

Outerwear

Item	Required/optional	Information
Outside Coats		Students should wear an appropriate coat to school in colder or wet weather (any colour permitted). Outside coats must be removed before entering classrooms. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Caps		Caps are not to be worn on academy premises.
Woollen Hats	Optional	May be worn between the autumn and spring half terms but must be removed when entering the school building.

PE kit

Item	Required/optional	Information
Polo shirt	Required	PE polo shirt with Bedlington Academy logo Note: Branded polo shirt, only available from the uniform supplier.
Bottoms	Required	Black shorts/tracksuit bottoms/black sports leggings. Note: It is required for students to have at least one of these items.
Mid layer top	Optional	Note: Please note that students are required to wear PE kit on school visits which involve physical activity (including geography fieldwork and other outdoor activities) therefore the hoodie or mid layer is recommended (though not compulsory).
Hoodie	Optional	
Rain jacket	Optional	
Skort	Optional	
Sports sock	Optional	

Black base layer	Optional	Note: A plain black base layer maybe worn underneath the PE polo shirt during colder months.
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PE Footwear

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Moulded Astro trainers	Required	Moulded 'Astro' pimple sole trainers are a compulsory item. These are the only suitable footwear accepted on the 3G Sports Pitch. Metal studs, blades and flat sole trainers are not accepted.
Trainers	Optional	Students may bring an additional pair of sports trainers for indoor use. However, pimple soled Astro trainers can be worn in the Sports Hall. Note: Plimsolls, converse or canvas types are not suitable.

4. General appearance

Jumpers and cardigans	Must be worn over trousers or skirts, not tucked in.
Hair	Hair should be a natural colour (one colour only). The Academy reserves the right to decide that the cut and colour of a student's hair is inappropriate. Tramlines, cat scratches Mohicans, extreme short sides, longer on top are examples of styles that are deemed inappropriate. Hair accessories should be plain dark colours, thin and not overly decorative.
Religious Coverings	Head Students may wear religious head coverings or garments (e.g. hijabs, turbans, kippahs) as part of their uniform, provided they are plain black or grey and meet health and safety standards.

Jewellery	Students are permitted to wear one stud in each earlobe. No other jewellery (this includes necklaces, bracelets and/or rings) or visible body piercings are allowed. Students will not be allowed to cover body piercings with Elastoplast. Parents must ensure that if a child is to have a piercing it must take place at the start of the six weeks' holiday and must be removed on the first day of term.
Make-Up	Make-up, if worn, should be discreet (not visible). The Academy reserves the right to decide whether the amount of make-up a student is applying is inappropriate. Fake tan is not permitted. Students are not permitted to wear false, gel or acrylic nails and/or brightly coloured nail varnish. For health and safety reasons, nails need to be a sensible length, False eyelashes are not permitted.
Tattoos	Tattoos which are visible are not permitted. Any student aged 18 or over with a visible tattoo will need to keep it covered up. It is illegal to have a tattoo below the age of 18.
Clothing	Large fashion belts are not acceptable or part of the Academy uniform. Hoods must not be worn inside the Academy.
Equipment	All students are expected to come to the Academy with: • a bag large enough to carry an A4 file (backpacks are recommended). • a pencil case containing pen, pencil, ruler, and rubber Tutors and Year Managers will carry out equipment checks regularly. Where a student fails to bring the correct equipment to the Academy, this will be flagged on EASI and his/her name will be passed on to the appropriate Year Manager. From then onwards, the Year Manager will apply a range of sanctions to ensure that the student brings the correct equipment to the Academy. These sanctions might include detentions, parental contact, internal exclusions etc.

Sixth form dress code

Our dress code is smart office wear which entails:

- Blouse/dress shirt (collared).

- Tailored trousers (no jeans/tracksuits).
- Tailored skirt (minimum knee length).
- Jumper / cardigan.
- Smart shoes (not trainers/pumps).
- No extreme hairstyles. Hair colour and make-up should be subtle.
- Tattoos must not be visible.
- No facial piercing allowed other than subtle ear piercing.
- No extreme levels of jewellery to be worn in school.
- Coats/hoodies/hats should not be worn inside the building

Students are in a working environment and so strapless or shoulder less tops, short tops which do not meet the waistband of trousers/skirts, short skirts, shorts, plunging necklines, and vest tops are not appropriate. Clothes that are too tight or revealing (including sports leggings) should not be worn.

The Academy reserves the right to make the final decision on what is acceptable and what is not acceptable

Pre-loved school uniform

In an effort to ensure affordability and ease the financial pressures involved in purchasing uniform for our parents/guardians and their families, we have established a 'Pre-Loved School Uniform Shop'. This is also a means of reducing the amount of clothing that is wasted and sent to landfill, thus protecting the environment, and reducing our carbon footprint.

Students and families will then be able to obtain any items of uniform they need can contact the school office or email info@bedlingtonacademy.co.uk

The following items of uniform can be donated:

General Uniform	PE
School Blazer	PE Top
School Skirts	PE Bottoms
School Trousers	
School Shorts	
White shirts (long or short sleeved)	
Black school shoes – good condition, male and female	
School Tie	

As part of the Home School Agreement our students and parents/guardians agree to conform to the uniform requirements of the school. Therefore, if parents/guardians or students are in doubt about whether or not a particular article of clothing is suitable or before making any decisions about altering hair colour or style, we ask that they contact their child's Year Manager prior to any change.

Dissemination of the policy

This policy is available on the school website, on request to parents/guardians, the Local Authority and Ofsted through the Executive Principal. A copy will be stored on staff files.

Other policies that have relevance are:

- Admissions and Appeals
- Equality Policy
- Health and Safety
- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour Policy

Ordering the Academy uniform

Uniform can be ordered from:

<https://emblematic.co.uk/bedlington-store/ahs/>

Or in store at:

Emblematic Ltd, 30 Glebe Road, Bedlington, Northumberland, NE22 6JT, Tel No. 01670 820 262.