

HOLBROOK ACADEMY

Acting Headteacher: George Anstee-Parry, M.Ed, NPQH
Acting Deputy Headteacher: Sarah Watson



7th June 2024

Dear Parent / Carer,

Uniform

We are making some adjustments to our uniform policy and the expectations from September 2024 to ensure our students look smart and presentable. This helps to prepare them for their futures in employment in professional environments. These changes have been shared with students during assemblies this week.

After careful consideration, we have decided that from 1st September 2024, skirts will no longer be part of the school uniform for students at Holbrook Academy. This change, along with our general expectations, are set out in the attached Uniform Expectations document.

Uniforms contribute significantly to a cohesive educational environment by reducing distractions related to varied clothing styles. They help in levelling the playing field, minimising the visible economic disparities among students. This fosters a more inclusive atmosphere where the focus remains on education rather than attire.

Uniforms also play a crucial role in fostering a sense of unity and equality among students. However, the financial burden they impose on families must also be considered to prevent unintended consequences that undermine their very purpose.

Despite these advantages, the cost of uniforms can be prohibitive for some families. High prices for school-specific attire can strain household budgets, particularly for those with multiple school-age children. To mitigate this issue, we have the following:-

1. Affordable Options: Only two items in our uniform have a school logo, the jumper and PE top, which are available from Coes (tie available from school also). All other items can be purchased from multiple suppliers who offer a range of uniform options at different price points. This ensures that all families can find something within their budget.
2. Second-Hand Uniform: Over recent years, we have encouraged families to donate uniform which is no longer required. This enables us to offer second-hand uniform at minimal prices which not only makes uniforms more affordable but also promotes sustainability.

Students opting to wear non-uniform items can create peer pressure and competition among students, countering the uniform policy's goal of equality. We have seen this particularly with shoes and, with this in mind, shoes with large logos ie Nike Air Force 1 shoes, will no longer be acceptable uniform. With this change we hope to reduce the unintended pressure to buy expensive brands.

Thank you for your continued support in these matters.

Yours sincerely,

George Anstee-Parry
Acting Headteacher

C Elliott

Mrs. C Elliott
Headteacher (from September 2024)





Holbrook Academy Uniform Expectations : September 2024

| Uniform Item | Expectation | Additional Information |
|---|--|--|
| Jumper | Navy Jumper with Academy logo | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jumper to be worn at all times May be removed at break and lunchtime whilst outside but should be put back on before entering the school building. In the Summer term or hotter weather, staff and students will be advised as and when this is eased. |
| White Shirt | With collar and top button | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To be worn with Academy tie Top button to be fastened at all times Shirt to be tucked into trousers/culottes at all times |
| Tie | Academy striped tie | |
| Black Trousers / Black Culottes Black tailored shorts (Summer term only) | School trousers / culottes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No jeans or jean style trousers, leggings, Chino or combat style |
| Shoes | Plain black sensible shoes <i>Refer to examples shown below</i> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No footwear with a large branded logo ie Nike Air Force 1 No boots (in extreme weather boots may be worn to and from school but must be changed on arrival) Low heeled shoes only |
| Socks | Dark socks – black, grey, navy | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No white or brightly coloured socks |
| Belt (Optional) | Dark plain belt | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No brightly coloured belts Small buckle with no logos |
| Jewellery | Watch One stud per earlobe Single discrete nose stud | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No other facial piercings No body artistry No jewellery to be worn in PE lessons or Food lessons |
| Make Up / Nails | Discrete make up No long, stick on or acrylic nails No false eyelashes | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clear nail varnish only No nail varnish to be worn in Food lessons |
| Hair | No extreme hair colours | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No shaved hair patterns, extreme styles |

Please ensure that all uniform and PE kit is marked with the owner's name.

General Rules:

- No hoodies or hooded jumpers to be worn between 8.40am and 3.15pm. If seen, these will be confiscated and may be collected at the end of the day from the office.
- It is recommended that students wear a coat in colder weather but this must be removed upon entering the classroom.

Additional Information Regarding Footwear:

All students are to wear plain, black, sensible leather or leather look shoes. Heel must be of a sensible height. There are to be no trainers/look-alike, no canvas shoes, no high heels, no pumps or canvas pumps with laces.

Any student failing to adhere to this policy regarding footwear will lose their social time until the matter is rectified.

ACCEPTABLE FOOTWEAR



UNACCEPTABLE FOOTWEAR



Crocs

Boots

Heels

Canvas lack stability

PE Kit

- Navy / Sky blue rugby shirt (outdoor lessons)
- Polo shirt (indoor lessons)
- Navy blue shorts (all lessons)
- Navy / Sky blue football socks (all lessons)
- Trainers
- Football boots / Outdoor trainers
- Blue or Black tracksuit style trousers

Optional:-

- Towel
- Shin pads and Gum shield (advisable for certain activities)

Culottes

One supplier for school uniform culottes is [Tu Clothing at Sainsburys](#)