

# **Aughton Junior Academy**

# **School Uniform Policy**

Approved by:	Toni Tomlinson	Date: November 2022
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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
- > Clarify our expectations for school uniform

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

The <u>Equality Act 2010</u> prohibits discrimination against an individual based on the protected characteristics, which include sex, race, religion or belief, and gender reassignment.

To avoid discrimination, our school will:

- > Avoid listing uniform items based on sex, to give all pupils the opportunity to wear the uniform they feel most comfortable in or that most reflects their self-identified gender
- > Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all pupils
- > Allow all pupils to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- > Allow all pupils to style their hair in the way that is appropriate for school yet makes them feel most comfortable
- > Allow pupils to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- > Allow pupils to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- > Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking pupils or their parents to get in touch with Mrs. T Tomlinson, Associate Principal, via the school office, who can answer questions about the policy and respond to any requests

# 3. Limiting the cost of school uniform

Our school has a duty to make sure that the uniform we require is affordable, in line with statutory <u>guidance</u> from the Department for Education on the cost of school uniform.

We understand that items with distinctive characteristics (such as branded items, or items that have to have a school logo or a unique fabric/colour/design) 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.

We will make sure our uniform:

> Is available at a reasonable cost

> Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

- > Carefully considering whether any items with distinctive characteristics are necessary
- > Limiting any items with distinctive characteristics where possible. For example; by only asking that the blazer, worn over the jumper, features the academy logo in KS2 or the jumper in KS1 has the academy logo.
- > Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties
- Avoiding specific requirements for items pupils could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes
- > Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveler
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups
- > Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities
- > Considering alternative methods for signaling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels
- > Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items
- Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of any changes
- > Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy

# 4. Expectations for school uniform

#### 4.1 Our school's uniform

All pupils must wear the appropriate school uniform. ACET firmly believe that a smart dress code reinforces high standards of behaviour and respect. This is a school policy, endorsed by the Governing Body. Aughton Junior Academy uniform consists of the following items;

#### KS2 - Year 3-6 children should wear;

· A black blazer with the embroidered 'Aughton' logo and gold braid

(please be aware there is a difference between the blazers for boys and girls; boys' blazers have a black lining whereas the girls' blazers have a gold lining).

- A white shirt/blouse long or short sleeved
- Black and gold striped tie (elasticated)
- A grey smart V-neck jumper
- Grey tailored trousers (girls and boys)
- · Grey pinafore dress
- Smart black shoes (all black trainers may be worn)
- Hair accessories must be black and/or gold in colour. Some large hair accessories may obstruct pupils view in the classroom, please consider this.

#### FS/KS1 - FS, Year 1 and Year 2 children should wear;

A grey smart V-neck jumper with academy logo and gold trim or plain Grey smart V-neck jumper.

- A gold or yellow polo neck t-shirt.
- Grey tailored trousers (girls and boys)
- Grey pinafore dress
- Smart black shoes (all black trainers may be worn however, white or coloured soles are not acceptable.)
- Hair accessories must be black and/or gold in colour. Some large hair accessories may obstruct pupils view in the classroom, please consider this.

#### In summer term, children may also wear:

- Plain grey shorts of an appropriate length.
- Yellow gingham dress

Please ensure that your child has a hat to wear outside in sunny weather.

#### **School PE Kit**

- Plain white t-shirt
- Black shorts/leggings/tracksuit bottoms (We take pupils out whenever possible, these must be available at all times).
- Rugby top (purchased from Pinders) or plain black zip up jacket/jumper
- Trainers

#### **Additional Information**

- Football shirts or kits are not acceptable.
- Pupils with long hair are expected to fasten it back for health and safety purposes. Hair bobbles should be provided from home.
- Children are expected to bring to school their PE kit on Monday and leave it until Friday. PE sessions can take place on any day of the week regardless of usual PE day slots.

#### Swimming Kit (Year 5 only)

- Swimming costume
- Swimming shorts (that are not baggy)
- Swimming cap school will purchase from swimming centre at a charge to parents

#### **School Bag**

Pupils must use appropriate sized bags to carry their books/diaries etc. School book bags can be purchased in school or at Pinders, but if they use their own, then no inappropriate slogans or phrases.

#### **Religious Clothing**

The school does not discriminate against any religions or beliefs, however, the school weighs the needs and rights of the individual pupils against Health & Safety concerns of the entire school community. Parent/Carer concerns and requests will be dealt with on a case by case basis by the Principal and Governors.

#### **Jewellery and Fashion Items**

Jewellery or fashion items, like belts, are not needed in the academy and we politely ask that children do not wear these. Children may wear a watch, preferably inexpensive and not smart watches. Headbands and hair accessories can be worn however we do ask that they are appropriate for school (unicorn horns, cat ears & large bows etc do not conform to our uniform policy) Children can also wear a maximum of one small stud earring only in each ear. If your child wears earrings, they are the sole responsibility of your child. They must be removed for PE. If your child is unable to remove them alone, it would be far better if the earrings remained at home. If it is not yet possible to remove earrings, they must be covered completely with tape brought from home. This is also the responsibility of your child – staff cannot help children put on or remove tape from ears. No other piercings are allowed at all.

We do not allow inappropriately coloured / dyed hair, no makeup, or wearing nail varnish in school, unless it is for a 'dress up' day.

School uniform is continually monitored by your child's class teacher and may be given the necessary items to wear for the duration of the school day, if they are not in appropriate uniform. Such items of clothing will then need to be returned, by the child, to the class teacher or school reception before the child leaves to go home.

We do not ask pupils to change their footwear every day but if the weather is extreme - thick snow or torrential rain - we ask them to bring a change of shoes which can be kept in their cloakroom.

All clothing should be clearly labelled with your child's name, as it is difficult to distinguish the ownership of items of clothing which all look the same.

In each case, an order form should be completed and either sent via email, post or delivered by hand.

#### 4.2 Where to purchase it

Uniform with our academy logo can be purchased directly from the academy or from Pinders Schoolwear;

- Pinders Schoolwear Mansfield Road, Aston, Sheffield, S26 2BS
- 0114 2513275
- info@pindersschoolwear.co.uk
- www.pindersschoolwear.com

Each of these items can be purchased individually or as a subsided bundle for £25, which contains:

- Blazer
- Jumper
- Rugby Top
- Tie

For all other items of uniform, we suggest purchasing from local supermarkets and 'high-street' shopping retailers.

#### **Second Hand Uniform**

The Department of Education has asked that:

"Schools should make sure that arrangements are in place so that second-hand school uniforms are available for all parents.

As a school, we welcome and have some good quality second hand uniform available for any parent who requires it. We ask that you contact either school office <a href="mailto:info@aughtonacademy.org">info@aughtonacademy.org</a> or 0114 2873091, and we

will sort this for you in a discrete manner. It is important to note that at times during the year, we do have a limited amount of stock.

At the end of each full term, we will have our stock out for parents/carers to replenish and take a look at.

Other places where second hand uniform for Aughton Junior Academy is available;

- Parents donate uniform to a charity shop on Lodge Lane
- Councilor Pitchley holds a Uniform Bank at 'The Green Hut' in Swallownest through the Parish Hall.

# 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 (if required)

Pupils are also expected to contact Mrs. T Tomlinson, Associate 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 and PE kit, and that every item is:

- > Clean
- > Clearly labelled with the child's name (including shoes, coats and school bags)
- > In good condition

Parents are also expected to contact Mrs T Tomlinson, Associate Principal, if they want to request an amendment to the uniform policy in relation to:

- > Their child's protected characteristics
- > The cost of the uniform

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 Staff

Staff will closely monitor pupils to make sure they are in correct uniform. They will give any pupils and families breaching the uniform policy the opportunity to comply, but will follow up with the Associate Principal if the situation doesn't improve.

Ongoing breaches of our uniform policy will be dealt with by Mrs T Tomlinson, Associate Principal.

In cases where it is suspected that financial hardship has resulted in a pupil not complying with this uniform policy, staff will take a mindful and considerate approach to resolving the situation.

#### 5.4 Governors

The governing board will review this policy and make sure that it:

- > Is appropriate for our school's context
- > Is implemented fairly across the academy.
- > 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 2 years by Mrs. T Tomlinson, Associate Principal. At every review, it will be approved by the full governing board.

# 7. Links to other policies

This policy is linked to our:

- > Behaviour policy
- > Equality information and objectives statement
- > Anti-bullying policy
- > Complaints policy