



The Academy
at Shotton Hall

Uniform Policy

Review date: September 2026
Date of next review: September 2028



North East
Learning Trust

Review history

Review Date	Reviewer	Approved by	Date approved	Implementation
September 2023	S Heseltine	Head of School	July 2023	September 2023
September 2025	S Heseltine	Head of School	September 2025	September 2025
September 2026	S Heseltine	Head of School	September 2026	September 2026

Recent revisions

Issue No.	Date	Revisions made
2	September 2023	Included shorts and updated colour to purple
3	December 2024	Updated to include reference to religious head coverings
4	September 2026	Amendments made to footwear section.

1. Introduction

The Academy at Shotton Hall is part of the North East Learning Trust and the uniform policy supports the high standards of the Trust and the Academy. At The Academy at Shotton Hall 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:

- **Promotes Equality**

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

- **Encourages a Sense of Belonging**

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

- **Supports a Focused Learning Environment**

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

- **Enhances 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.

- **Fosters Discipline and Responsibility**

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

- **Prepares 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	Branded blazer (straight or fitted version) with the school badge and colour strip. Sleeves must not be rolled up. Note: Only available from the uniform supplier.
Shirt	Required	White collared shirt with top button. This must be smartly tucked in. Note: Shirts can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Academy Tie	Required	Branded The Academy at Shotton Hall tie. Supplied to Year 7 students in the first instance. Replacement ties purchased through the uniform supplier and the school Finance office.

Jumper	Optional	Black v neck jumper and the Academy badge. Note: Only available from the uniform supplier. No other alternatives are acceptable. Although not compulsory, must not be worn instead of a blazer.
Trousers	Required	Plain black formal straight cut school trousers – not leggings, jeans or stretch style. The bottoms of the trouser must be at least 7.5 inches/18 cm wide at the bottom. Note: Trousers purchased elsewhere MUST be the same style and fit as those provided by the uniform supplier.
Skirt	Required	Knee length skirt. Not tight fitting or stretch material and must be no more than one inch above the knee. Note: Only available from the uniform supplier and are heavily subsidised to support families.
Shorts	Optional	Plain black, formal straight cut shorts (just above the knee). No jeans, cargo style, leggings, stretchy or tracksuit style. PE shorts in all styles are not allowed.
Shoes	Required	Plain black, formal, leather or leather style shoes or ankle boots which can be polished. Trainers or trainer-style shoes are not permitted and wedged or high soled and heeled shoes are not acceptable.

Outerwear

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
Outside Coats		Outside coats must be removed when entering the school building. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer but optional outerwear

		by Emblematic can be viewed on the website.
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
Red an black t-shirt	Required	Branded and only available from the uniform supplier.
Black shorts/tracksuit bottoms/leggings	Required	Available from the uniform supplier or a high street retailer.
Jumper/Tracksuit top	Optional	Black jumper or black tracksuit top can be worn over the PE t-shirt in the colder months. Note: Tops with the school logo are available from the uniform supplier.

PE Footwear

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
Trainers	Required	Note: Trainers with non-marking soles are to be worn in the sports hall.
Studded Boots	Required	Note: Students must wear studded boots when participating in certain activities on the grass.
Moulded boots and Astro trainers	Optional	Note: Are allowed on the 3G sports pitch. However, metal studs, blades and flat sole trainers are not accepted.
Plimsolls, Converse, or canvas type shoes		Note: Not suitable footwear for PE and should not be worn.
Barefoot		Note: Dance is performed barefoot.

General Appearance

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, Mohicans, extreme short sides, longer on top are examples of styles that are deemed inappropriate. Hair bands should be thin and not overly decorated e.g., no larger flowers.
Religious Head Coverings	Students may wear religious head coverings or garments (e.g. hijabs, turbans, kippahs) as part of their uniform, provided they are plain black 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	Students in Years 9, 10 and 11 can wear discreet, natural make-up. The Academy reserves the right to decide whether the amount of make-up a student is applying is inappropriate. Students are not permitted to wear false, gel or acrylic nails and/or garishly coloured nail varnish. For health and safety reasons nails need to be a sensible length, False eyelashes are not permitted. No fake tan is permitted.
Tattoos	Tattoos which are visible are not permitted. 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.

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 and should contact Mrs Heseltine, Deputy Headteacher.

The following items of uniform can be donated:

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

As part of the Parental Contract 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 [here](#):