



Woodkirk Academy & Sixth Form

UNIFORM POLICY

Approved by the
Local Committee
on 4 July 2023
(updated September 2025)



1. INTRODUCTION

All students attending Woodkirk Academy must wear the school uniform as detailed in this policy, unless the application of parts of this policy could discriminate against certain protected characteristics under the Equality Act 2010. If this is the case, then this must be discussed with senior staff.

2. AIMS

The aims of this policy are to:

- 2.1. Create a sense of community and belonging towards the Academy.
- 2.2. Avoid a uniform based on sex, ensuring students have the opportunity to wear clothing that reflects their self-identified gender.
- 2.3. Ensure students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance, ie they do not feel pressured to wear the latest fashions.
- 2.4. Ensure the school uniform is seen as good value for money by most parents.

3. THE ROLE OF GOVERNORS

Governors will:

- 3.1. Work with the Principal to ensure this policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.
- 3.2. Have due regard to their responsibilities under the Equality Act 2010.

4. THE ROLE OF PARENTS

There is no doubt that personal appearance does affect standards of behaviour and, therefore, academic performance. We ask all parents who send their child to our school to support the school uniform policy. We believe that they have a duty to send them correctly dressed and ready for their daily schoolwork. It is parents' responsibility to ensure that their child has the correct uniform and that it is clean and in good repair.

5. CLOTHING

Trousers	Tailored office style trousers should be worn in plain dark grey or black, polyester cotton. Trousers should be full length and worn above the hips. Trousers must be loose fitting, particularly below the knee where they must not cling to the leg at all. No visible logos or jean style pockets or additional zips (other than the fly), this includes on the pockets, trouser legs etc.
Skirts	Trousers should have traditional tailored pockets. 'Jeans style' pockets on the rear of the trousers are not suitable. Skirts must be plain black, not patterned, ribbed, textured or denim. Skirts must be worn close to the knee at all times. Very tight fitting, elasticated or tube style skirts are not appropriate for school and will not be allowed. The style of skirt worn should ensure that they remain at the appropriate length.
PLEASE NOTE: NO JEANS, CHINOS OR TIGHT FITTING/SKINNY-FIT TROUSERS.	
NOT ALL TROUSERS AND SKIRTS SOLD IN THE UNIFORM SECTION OF SHOPS ARE SUITABLE FOR WOODKIRK ACADEMY.	
Belts	If worn, should be plain black in colour with no large buckles or logos.
Shirt	Plain white or blue, not polo or sports shirts. Shirts must be worn tucked into trousers / skirts at all times and should, therefore, be a suitable length. They must be worn buttoned to the neck. Short sleeved shirts may be worn but must not be rolled up to the shoulder.
Vests/ Tee-Shirts (as under garments)	Optional in inclement weather. Should be white in colour only and not visible with top button on shirt fastened when worn.
Jumper	Plain, single colour, royal-blue V-neck with year group stripe and Woodkirk Academy crest. It must not be worn tucked into skirts or trousers. Jumpers must be worn at all times unless specific permission is given otherwise. Any non-uniform jumper/sweatshirts must not be worn on the Academy site. This includes pull-on hooded tops.
Tie	Compulsory year group Woodkirk Academy tie which must be worn fastened to the neck with a single knot. The sewing on the tie should not be unpicked. It must be worn as purchased. All students in Years 7 to 11 are expected to wear a tie.
Socks	Plain colours only and worn above the ankle. Brightly coloured socks are not allowed. PE socks must not be worn outside of PE lessons.
Tights	Natural or black
Shoes	Black full shoes only with black soles, with no elaborate patterns, logos or decorative elements. No canvas, sling-back, backless or high-heeled shoes. No training or trainer style shoes or boots. No thick soled shoes (unless permission has been given). Shoelaces must be black and fastened appropriately. Walking boot style boot/shoes/laces are not suitable for school. In bad weather students may come in appropriate boots (not fashion boots) but must change into shoes during the day.

	The training shoe rule will be strictly adhered to and only students with previously agreed medical conditions and a medical letter will be allowed to wear plain black training shoes or pumps. The entire footwear must be plain black, including the sole.
Outdoor wear	No coats or scarves to be worn in the building. No hats to be worn on school site and no hoods (unless for religious reasons or permission has been given during inclement weather). Baseball caps are deemed unsuitable and should, therefore, not be worn on Woodkirk Academy grounds. No denim or denim style. Non-Uniform jumpers are not allowed as outdoor wear. However, a full zip hooded top may be worn as a coat over the school jumper. Traditional coats must have full zip/buttons, ie from the top to the bottom of the coat. When moving within the building, coats should be carried to the next lesson. This should also be the case if moving between buildings unless in inclement weather.

Denim is not allowed in school.

Students must be in full school uniform at all times. This includes travelling to and from school. If the weather is very warm, students may be allowed to remove their school jumper once on site. This decision will be made by staff on a daily basis and students will be informed. Students must have all uniform items with them every day.

PE kit

Compulsory Years 7 to 11

White polo shirt.

White or royal blue shorts.

White or royal blue socks

Plain navy blue or black sweatshirt

Suitable clean trainers

Football boots, ideally moulded although metal studs and blades can be used but are not recommended.

The boys' curriculum currently includes contact rugby. A royal blue reversible games shirt is therefore an additional compulsory item. This could be purchased in place of the compulsory navy blue or black sweatshirt. Any plain suitable top can be worn under the polo shirt or rugby shirt if outside.

Optional

Plain navy blue or black tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings.

It is advised to wear shin pads for football and a mouth guard for hockey and rugby.

All items of clothing should have the student's name marked on them.

Uniform stockists

Smart Uniforms, 1-3 Cheapside, Bradford Road, Batley WF17 5ND
Website: [click here](#)

The Uniform Centre, 114/116 Queen Street, Morley LS27 9EB
Website: [click here](#)

Non-branded items, ie shirts and trousers, can be purchased from shops such as Asda, Sainsbury's and Tesco.

6. JEWELLERY

- 6.1. A single plain, entirely metal stud, gold or silver in colour, not greater than 5 mm in diameter may be worn in each ear, in the lobe. No other earrings should be worn. Taping over, or the wearing of invisible/clear earrings or piercings, is not permissible. Facial piercings are not allowed.
- 6.2. No other jewellery should be worn in school. We are aware that there may be occasions when some students request to wear religious symbols. These will be considered on an individual basis.
- 6.3. Medical alert tags must be worn at all times.
- 6.4. Watches may be worn. However, they must not have any recording capability, including video, pictures or sound, and must not be able to connect to the internet; this includes via Wi-Fi or mobile connectivity such as 3, 4 or 5G.

7. HAIR

- 7.1. The Academy recognises that there will always be a variety of hairstyles worn by students. Most hair styles are appropriate.
- 7.2. Styles deemed to be inappropriate include: haircuts that are excessively short, ie lower than grade 0.5 and/or where hair has been cut to bare skin; haircuts where patterns, stripes or letters have been cut into the student's hair; or hair that is dyed in bright or unnatural colours. Hair must be blended. If a style is deemed to be inappropriate, the student will be placed in isolation or instructed to go home.
- 7.3. Highlighted hair should be worn in a conventional, tidy style with no extreme patterns - the highlights should be across all of the hair and not simply in one specific area.
- 7.4. Elaborately braided, beaded or extended styles are not deemed suitable for school. Hair extensions are not allowed.
- 7.5. Any hair style which does not conform to the policy will only be permitted if the student and their family satisfy the Academy that there is a genuine particular requirement based on ethnicity, religion or medical reason. The grounds for such an exception – ie the ability to conform to the policy would be regarded as impossible - would have to be established (in discussion with the Principal).

8. MAKE-UP

- 8.1. Make-up, including false eyelashes, and fake tan is not allowed for any reason. The Academy retains the right to ask students to remove any make-up or false tan. Students who repeatedly wear make-up and fake tan may be sent home for parents to ensure make-up and/or false tan is removed before students are returned to school as soon as possible.
- 8.2. Part shaven, totally shaven or painted eyebrows are not deemed suitable for school.
- 8.3. Visible or decorative tattoos are not allowed, including temporary transfers, motifs or body art.
- 8.4. Tooth jewels must not be worn in school.
- 8.5. Nail varnish and false nails are not deemed suitable for school.

9. NON-COMPLIANCE WITH THE UNIFORM POLICY

- 9.1. Where uniform infringements can be addressed in school this will be done, including the removal of make-up and jewellery, including earrings and piercings; and the loan of clean items of clothing.
- 9.2. Where this is not possible, in the majority of cases, parents will be asked to collect their child in order to rectify the infringement. Or, the Academy will seek consent from the parent to send the student home in order to address the issue. The student should then return to school wearing the correct uniform.
- 9.3. If parents are unavailable, then the student will be kept in isolation for the duration of the school day. This will normally be in isolation. Appropriate work will be provided. Contact will be made with parents to ensure that the student wears the correct uniform the following school day.
- 9.4. The school reserves the right to refuse to permit onto site students who are not meeting the expectations of the uniform policy so that they can return home to rectify this. This might include, though is not limited to, students who have repeatedly failed to meet the expectations of the uniform policy and students who have failed to meet the expectations of the uniform policy in spite of fair warning and support to do so. In all cases where this action is taken, parents would be made aware of this possibility and would be informed immediately that their child has been sent home.
- 9.5. Where it is not possible to address a uniform breach quickly, for example short hair styles that need time to grow out, these will be considered case by case, with possible outcomes including removal from mainstream lessons or working from home.
- 9.6. Staff may confiscate items of jewellery that do not comply with section 6 of this policy. Confiscated items may be made available for collection by an adult, at an agreed time between 8.50am and 3.00pm

10. PROVISION OF SECOND-HAND UNIFORMS

- 10.1. There are benefits to acquiring second hand uniforms, for example it is more sustainable to extend the life of clothing.
- 10.2. There are local groups who offer parents the facility to exchange and obtain items of uniform:
 - 10.2.1. [Tingley and West Ardsley Uniform Exchange](#) is Tingley and West Ardsley Uniform Exchange is a swapping Facebook group for uniforms, shoes, PE kits, bags, football boots and more. They hold an annual uniform swap shop during the summer break.
 - 10.2.2. [Fresh Start Community Projects](#) in Morley, a charity shop which runs a pop-up school uniform during some school holidays.

10.3. Woodkirk Academy Uniform Exchange

- 10.3.1. We encourage clothing to be handed down to younger siblings where possible. Year group specific jumpers which do not have the correct colour trim for a younger sibling can be exchanged for a different year group, if available.
- 10.3.2. Any uniform items no longer required can be donated via Main Reception or Student Services. Items should be clean, in good condition and any names on labels concealed.
- 10.3.3. Enquiries about the availability of uniform items can be made at woodkirkreception@woodkirk.leodis.org.uk.
- 10.3.4. There will be no charge for uniform items.

The Academy will have the final say on suitability with regard to any uniform issues.