



# ACET Secondary Academies Uniform Policy

**DATE:** May 2026  
**POLICY LEAD:** Deputy CEO  
**APPROVED BY:** Trustees



Excellence



Equity



Empowerment

## DOCUMENT CONTROL

|                      |                           |
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| <b>Policy Level</b>  | Trust                     |
| <b>Approved By</b>   | Trustees                  |
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This policy remains valid until it is reviewed and replaced; it does not expire by date alone. Policies are reviewed annually, or sooner if required by statutory or legislative changes, in line with best practice

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| <b>Version Number</b> | <b>Date Issued</b> | <b>Updated Information</b>  |
|-----------------------|--------------------|---|
| V2                    | March 2025         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PE kit at Shirebrook Academy – correct footwear for the 3G pitch. Reference to the waist of school trousers being worn at waist height. Further clarification added about the trust approved skirt. Reference made that boots should not be worn with a skirt.</li> </ul>  |
| V3                    | March 2026         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Remove references to student planners.</li> <li>Updated supplier information with new supplier.</li> <li>Updated PE kit to new ACET PE kit.</li> <li>Legacy uniform items (including PE kit) are allowed.</li> <li>Added the word ‘polishable’ to the shoe guidance.</li> <li>Amended the title from ‘Senior’ to ‘Secondary’.</li> </ul> |

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## **Introduction**

ACET believes that all students in KS3 & KS4 should wear their academy uniform when attending the academy or when participating in any academy organised events outside of normal school hours (unless advised differently).

We strongly believe that uniform creates a sense of identity, equity, and unity for our students.

It helps to make students feel part of our community and by wearing the academy uniform it demonstrates that our young people are proud to be ACET students, adhering to our core values and high standards.

It is an expectation that all students should wear their uniform every day and adhere to this policy.

We appreciate that it can be difficult process buying school uniform, so we offer this as a guide. Please note that not all school wear and shoes that are advertised as being suitable for school adhere to our policy. With this in mind, we expect that our parents/carers support our Uniform Policy and to work with us in partnership to ensure that uniform and appearance adhere to the following guidelines.

\*\*We understand that at times, there may be issues with uniform. If this is the case, we ask parents / carers to contact the year team, either via a phone call or email. All students will be given an agreed time frame in which to rectify any uniform infringements. Failure to do so may lead to sanctions being imposed. Uniform checks will be carried out daily.

## **Aims and objectives**

Our policy on academy uniform is based on the notion that it:

- promotes a sense of pride in the academy.
- engenders a sense of community and belonging towards the academy.
- is practical and smart.
- identifies the students within the academy (Post 16 students are required to wear lanyards for safeguarding purposes).
- prevents students from coming to the academy in fashion clothes that could be distracting / expensive.
- makes students feel equal to their peers in terms of appearance.
- is regarded as suitable wear for school and good value for money.
- is promoted with health and safety and safeguarding in mind.

## **The role of parents/carers**

We ask all parents/carers who send their children to our academies to support the trust wide uniform policy. We believe that parents/carers can support us by sending their children to school in the correct uniform, to arrive on time and with the correct equipment and attitude to maximise their learning opportunities. Working in partnership is key to student progress and success.

If any parent/carer would like to discuss with the academy any modifications to this policy for their individual child, they should make representation, in the first instance, to the principal. We may ask for medical, SEND supporting documentation to support such requests.

The trust always welcomes students from all backgrounds and faith communities. If there are reasons, for example, on religious grounds, why parents/carers want their child to wear clothes that differ from the academy uniform, the academy will look sympathetically at any requests made.

## **The role of the trust**

This is a trust policy for our secondary academies. Trustees will support and expect the principal to implement this uniform policy. They will also track and monitor its consistent application. They will receive information regarding this via reports to the 'Curriculum and Standards' subgroup. This committee will liaise with the principal to ensure that the policy is implemented fairly and with sensitivity.

It is the responsibility of the trust to ensure that the academy uniform meets all regulations concerning equal opportunities.

## Monitoring and review

The trust will monitor and review the academy uniform policy through its committee by:

- Seeking the views of parents/carers, to ensure that they are aware of the policy, its importance and how they can support the policy.
- Requiring the Principal to report to the governors on the way the academy uniform policy is implemented.

## ACET Uniform Supplier

From April 2026, the uniform supplier for our Secondary Academy is Schoolwear Solutions. Uniform items, including PE kit, can be purchased at:

- Online [www.schoolwearsolutions.com](http://www.schoolwearsolutions.com).
- Pop-up shops at the Academies.
- In-Store at Cliffs, 11a – 17 Printing Office Street, Doncaster, DN1 1TJ (bookable appointments available).

Uniform purchased prior to April 2026 from our legacy suppliers continues to be approved for the lifetime of the items. We continue to encourage the use of pre-loved uniform in our academies.

## ACET Uniform Guidance

In the ACET Secondary Academies we expect students to wear:

- **Black blazer** with the academy badge. Blazer must be single breasted with a front pocket for the badge on the left side. The blazer must be plain black. \*You may wish to purchase a blazer elsewhere and purchase a school badge separately from the named suppliers. Sleeves should be rolled down at all times.
- A **white shirt** with collar, short or long sleeved, tucked into trousers/skirt. The top button should be fastened.
- An academy approved **clip-on tie**.
- **Plain black skirt**. This must be at least knee length. If students wish to wear a skirt, then it must be a trust approved one, purchased from the academy official suppliers. This is to ensure that all skirts purchased meet the expectations of this policy.  
The approved skirt is 'Girls' black pencil skirt' [Girls Black Pencil Skirt - Schoolwear Solutions](#). Please select the one that is knee length on your child (26" length also available)
- Short/miniskirts are not allowed. If students wear non-regulation skirts, they will be required to change them. Tights must be worn with skirts and should be black or flesh coloured. Leggings should not be worn instead of tights.
- **Plain black formal, tailored trousers**. They should have a standard waist band, a front zip, should not be tight around the ankle and should touch the shoe. These formal style trousers should be made of a viscose, polyester type material. They should not be made of twill, denim or jersey type materials. The waist band of the trousers should be aligned with the student's waist. (Shorts should not be worn).

The following style / type of trousers will not be allowed:

Jeans, lycra, tight fitting leggings/jeggings, cords, chinos, combat trousers, tracksuit bottoms, flares, decorated trousers, ski pants, shorts. The trousers should not have any external pockets, studs, chains or visible zips.

**\*\*We highly recommend that if you are unsure about which trousers to purchase that you speak to academy staff in advance.**

- A plain black 'V' neck jumper may be worn under the blazer in cold weather (no logos allowed). The school tie should be visible.
- Religious headwear must be black.
- Baseball caps, bandanas, balaclavas and durags must not be worn or brought into the academy. A woolly hat may be worn to travel to and from the academy in cold weather, but NO HATS are to be worn inside the academy.
- Outdoor coats must be removed once inside the school building. Coats can be stored in bags, placed on the back of chairs or carried by students.

## Footwear

We expect students to wear sensible low-heeled plain black footwear. The shoes should be leather, patent leather or leather look and 'polishable'. Students are permitted to wear low heeled, plain black boots during winter months. However, boots must be worn so that any trousers are over the boot and not tucked into it. Boots should not be worn with a skirt.

The following are NOT acceptable:

- Trainers of any kind or shoes with trainer-like soles.
- Shoes or trainers with flashings, buckles, bows, trims, excessive accessories attached to them.
- Stilettos or shoes with high heels over 3cm.
- Sandals, open toed, sling back or backless shoes.
- Canvas shoes/trainers.
- Jelly type / rubber shoes.

## Jewellery

On health and safety grounds, we do not allow students to wear jewellery in the academy.

The exceptions to this rule are:

- Earring studs in pierced ears; one small, plain stud in each ear, lower ear lobe only – nose, tongue and other facial piercings are NOT allowed. Clear facial piercings are not allowed as an alternative.
- Wristwatch (all students will be requested to remove these during exams – internal and external).
- Medical identification bracelets may be worn by students who have significant medical problems e.g., Diabetes or epilepsy.

We ask students to remove these objects during PE, for health and safety reasons.

We also advise parents/carers who wish their children to have piercings to do so at the beginning of the school summer holidays. These piercings must, however, be removed before students return to the academy except for the single stud in the lobe.

## Extreme haircuts

The following is not acceptable for the academy:

- Hairstyles and haircuts which are deemed too extreme such as tramlines, stars, shaved heads (no shorter than a number 2), extreme patterns or Mohican cuts.
- Hair dyed in bright, non-natural colours (for example pink, red, blue, green etc. or any colour that is not a natural colour).

The following is not acceptable for the academy:

- Non-uniform jumpers, sweatshirts or hoodies MUST NOT BE WORN inside the academy.
- Coloured nail varnish/false nails.
- Excessive make-up, false eyelashes and gel/acrylic/false nails and coloured nail polish is not allowed. Additionally, nail length should be appropriate and safe for learning.

Students must also have:

- A dark coloured, waterproof, 'over the shoulder' bag which should be able to hold an A4 book and PE kit.
- Basic equipment e.g., pen, pencil, planner etc.

Reasonable adjustments to this uniform policy may be made following discussions with, and with the agreement of the principal (e.g. for medical reasons/disability) The principal's decision is final.

*The trust encourages all parents/carers to donate any clean/good condition blazers and ties if no longer required. Please contact the academy directly if you would like to donate or if you require any of these items. We are only too happy to support you.*

## **PE Kit**

- Black with yellow trim ACET t-shirt with academy logo.
- Black with yellow trim ACET 1/4 zip training top.
- Plain black bottoms (shorts, tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings).
- Black socks.
- Trainers for PE lessons.
- Studded boots for all outdoor lessons on the field (recommended).

At Shirebrook, legacy items of blue PE kit (blue) are permitted for the lifetime of the items.

## **Post 16 Dress Code**

Post 16 students are student leaders; their dress and appearance must therefore be appropriate to support and encourage the ethos of the academy.

Post 16 students are not required to wear uniform but must dress appropriately in a casual but smart manner.

**Acceptable Post 16 clothing includes:**

- Smart trousers, including smart jeans, dress or skirt\*.
- Smart shirt, blouse, polo shirt or T-shirt with appropriate design\*.
- Smart shoes, boots or trainers, no stiletto heels or backless shoes.
- Appropriately sized bag or rucksack.

**Please also note:**

- Only students participating in practical P.E. sessions are permitted to wear sports clothing.
- Shorts should not be worn.
- Tracksuits, football shirts or clothing with inappropriate slogans must not be worn.
- Crop tops or low-cut tops must not be worn.

- Hats should not be worn inside the academy building.
- Although Post 16 students are allowed piercings, they must be removed for all practical lessons.
- All Post 16 students are required to wear their lanyard at all times.

Where a student does not adhere to the guidelines above, they will be spoken to by a member of staff and asked to return home to change into more appropriate clothing

### **Non-compliance with the trust uniform policy**

At all times we would like to work with parents/carers to ensure that our students are wearing the correct uniform and that any uniform concerns are quickly addressed. Uniform in our academies is an important part of our standards and expectations and all students should arrive each day to our academy wearing full uniform.

Non-compliance with the academy uniform policy could lead to the following sanctions being implemented:

1. All students will be made aware of the sanctions linked to non-compliance with the academy uniform policy.
2. If a student is not following the uniform policy, they will be given an agreed time frame to rectify the issue.
3. If the issue continues, students will be placed in Internal Seclusion until the uniform issue is corrected.
4. If the student continues to refuse to follow the policy, then this could lead to a suspension
5. A student could be permanently excluded if they persistently refuse to follow the academy uniform policy.

### **Extreme Weather**

Please note that in the event that the Met Office makes an official announcement linked to **\*\*extreme weather conditions** during the summer term, the academy may make the following announcement.

‘Students may, if they wish to, choose to wear the academy PE kit to school instead of their standard academy uniform. There should be no deviations from this’.

The academy will make the announcement on a day-to-day basis. **Students should only attend in their PE kit if this announcement has been officially made** to parents/carers via email. The decision will be made by the principal and communicated as soon as possible prior to the day.

**\*\* Extreme heat** is defined as a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 32 degrees for at least two or three days.

**\*\*On warmer days**, the principal may decide to relax certain aspects of the uniform policy such as allowing students to remove blazers and / or ties.