

UNIFORM

Documentation Information			
Reviewed By	Roger Skervin	Last Reviewed	July 2024
This document lays out the approach Ashby School takes to this area/issue. It is not a policy, rather it seeks to establish some norms of practice to bring clarity and consistency. This document is not ratified nor reviewed on a cycle but is revisited as appropriate when there is a change in guidance at a Trust, local or national level.			

Our school's uniform

KS3 and KS4

Compulsory items from stockists

- **Blazer or jumper**– A blazer or a jumper is a mandatory item of uniform and the expectation is these are worn at all times unless otherwise directed. These are available from stockists. No other blazers are permitted. Please note, our jumper is changing to grey from August 2024, however, black branded jumpers can continue to be worn for the 2024-25 academic year.
- **Tie** - Ashby School maroon clip on tie
- **PE top:** Ashby branded maroon t-shirt for Key Stage 3 (this will be introduced into Year 10 when current Year 7 progress to that year group and may be worn by Key Stage 4 students if preferred prior to this)

Optional items from stockist

- **Tartan pleat skirts** - All skirts must be purchased from recognised suppliers. No other skirts will be permitted. Skirts must not be altered in their length.

Items available for general purchase

- **Trousers** - Plain black trousers must be in a tailored style and made of polyester. They must not be skin tight, jeans or jean or chino-style.
- **Shirts** - Plain white shirt or blouse (long or short-sleeved). Shirts must be tucked in.
- **Tights** -Tights can be natural or black.
- **Shoes** - Footwear must be **plain, black and polishable**. The whole footwear must be plain black with no coloured logos or additional tags. If in doubt, please consult school before making a purchase.
- **Socks** - Plain dark socks with trousers or skirts. If worn with skirts, sock length should be below the knee.
- **Belts** - Plain only, in keeping with professional office dress.
- **Outdoor coats** - Coats must be smart and professional and free of pictures, messages and logos. No denim jackets. Outdoor coats may have hoods but hoods must be down while students are anywhere on school premises unless raining. Coats must be removed in classrooms.
- **Outer wear accessories** - Hats, scarves and gloves must be smart and professional and fit for purpose. They must be removed when in school buildings.

PE wear - For Key Stage three currently and for all students from August 2023

- PE Plain Black sweatshirt – any logo must be small enough to be covered with a lanyard card
- PE black shorts/skort/joggers/running legging.
- Black football socks OR white sport socks.
- Suitable footwear

Additional points

- Baseball caps are not permitted on the school site.
- Hoodies - Hoodies are not permitted in school.
- Hair colour - Hair should be of a natural colour even if dyed (pink/ purple/ blue etc. are not acceptable). Hair should be styled in keeping with professional office dress. No extreme styles, such as mohicans, punk styles, hair art etc.

- Earrings - Stud earrings only. Students may wear more than one pair but must not wear hoop or dangle earrings
- Jewellery - No excessive jewellery.
- Piercings - No facial piercings are permitted (tongue, nose, lip, ear-bars etc). Any students wearing these will be required to remove studs/rings or wear a retainer or clear plastic stud which they must provide. (We have a small number for sale where required)
- No fashion belts
- Tattoos - No visible tattoos are permitted. Any students with a visible tattoo will be required to cover it during the school day.

Breaches of our uniform expectations are dealt with in line with our behaviour policy being mindful of our ability to provide support as outlined below

Support with uniform costs

Students who grow out of branded uniform are able to bring these items into the Uniform Exchange scheme and exchange smaller uniform for a larger size/different fit for a small fee where stocks allow. Support for students in receipt of pupil premium is also available.

Ashby Sixth Form

There are no branded items in our Sixth form uniform

- **Plain black trousers** – Trousers should be full length, plain cut, of a traditional style and with no studs or buttons. Skinny jeans, jean style chinos, black jeans, leggings or jeggings are not permitted.
- **Skirts** - Black, grey or burgundy and of a sensible length (mid-thigh or lower). No denim material is permitted. Fabric jersey / stretch / bodycon skirts are also not permitted as we believe that these are not appropriate business attire.
- **Tops** - Plain t-shirts, shirts, blouses, sweatshirts or cardigans in black, grey or burgundy can be worn. No thin-strapped / vest style tops (shoulders must be covered). No exposed mid-riffs. No large logos on any item of clothing.
- **Dresses** - black, grey or burgundy and of a sensible length (mid-thigh or lower). No denim material is permitted. Fabric jersey / stretch / bodycon dresses are also not permitted.
- **Outdoor coats** - Outdoor coats must be in keeping with professional office dress (denim is unacceptable).
- No hoodies, zipped or otherwise, at any time.
- **Shoes** - Black or brown footwear only. Plimsolls, trainers, military style boots and canvas shoes are not acceptable. Footwear should be suitable for an office environment.

Additional points

- Low cut tops, shorts, flip flops etc are not acceptable.
- Tattoos - No visible tattoos are permitted.
- Hair - Hair should be a natural colour even if dyed, ie. no pink, blue, green colour is acceptable. Hair should be styled in keeping with 'professional office' dress.
- Jewellery- Jewellery should be minimal.

This information below 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.

Our school's legal duties under the Equality Act 2010

The Equality Act 2010 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:

- Not list uniform items based on gender
- Make sure that our uniform costs the same for all students
- Allow all students to have long hair (though we reserve the right to ask for this to be tied back)
- Allow students to request changes to swimwear for religious reasons
- Allow students to wear headscarves and other religious or cultural symbols
- Allow for adaptations to our policy on the grounds of equality by asking students or their parents to get in touch via our admin@ashbyschool.org.uk e-mail address.

Limiting the cost of school uniform

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

Uniform is an important part of our ethos. It sets a tone for learning, removes peer-pressure around dressing for school and creates a strong community identity both within and beyond school. Our uniform policy is in line with neighbouring schools and schools within the LiFE MAT.

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 provides the best value for money for parents/carers. We will do this by:

- Limiting items with distinctive characteristics. Our school blazer, tie and PE top* are the only essential items that feature our school logo and need to be ordered from a school stockist. Our branded jumpers are an optional extra.
- This is being introduced as students join our Key Stage 3 so we do not create an extra burden on incoming Year 10 parents who only spend a few terms with us
- Not having specific requirements for items students could wear on non-school days, such as coats, bags and shoes.
- Not having different uniform requirements for different year groups and classes so uniform can be used for several years.
- Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items through the Ashby School exchange scheme.

Where to purchase uniform

The school's registered stockists include:

- Ashby Schoolwear at Ashby (in store or online at www.ashbyschoolwear.co.uk, with free delivery on items over £50);
- Student Schoolwear at Swadlincote (in store or online at www.Studentsschoolwear.co.uk).
- Liss Sport (**KS3 PE Kit only**) <https://www.lissport.co.uk/>

Oversight

The governing board and the Multiacademy Trust will review our uniform approach and make sure that it:

- Is appropriate for our school's context
- Is implemented fairly across the school
- Takes into account the views of parents and students
- Offers a uniform that is appropriate, practical and safe for all students
- Gives value for money