

UNIFORM AND EQUIPMENT GUIDANCE

| Documentation Information | | | |
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| Reviewed By | Fiona McCafferty | Last Reviewed | March 2025 |
| 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 uniform

KS3 and KS4

Compulsory items from stockists

- **Branded grey Blazer or Jumper** – Students must wear one of these branded items available from our stockists. Gender tailored blazers are available. None branded blazers or jumpers are not permitted. Please note from August 2025, only grey school jumpers can be worn.
- **Tie** - Ashby School maroon clip on tie.
- **PE top:** Ashby branded maroon t-shirt for Key Stage 3 and students who will be in year 10 in 2025-2026.
- **ID Lanyards** will be provided upon joining Ashby School, these will be coloured according to year group. The ID card to be worn with the lanyard will also be provided. As part of our safeguarding procedures, students are required to wear these at all times and not deface the cards. Any replacement cards or lanyards must be purchased online via Wisepay or from Café Express at lunch time.

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 skintight, leggings, jeans or jean/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 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, fit for purpose and free of pictures, messages and logos. They must be removed when in school buildings. Baseball caps are not permitted.

Additional PE wear - For Key Stage 3 and students who will be in Year 10 2025-2026

- PE Plain Black sweatshirt – any logo must be small enough to be covered with a lanyard card
- Ashby PE top as detailed above
- 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.
- For health and safety reasons false nails cannot be worn.

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.

PE Kit

We expect all students to engage with PE lessons. All students are expected to bring in their FULL PE KIT to every lesson. Any student that does not bring in their PE kit will need to borrow from the spare kit room (this kit is washed after every use by PE staff). Where students are unwell they are expected to still bring their kit and change so they can partake in learning through being a coach or an official, unless an injury prevents them from changing. They should also bring a note from home explaining why they can't take part in the physical aspect of the lesson. Students in these roles will be able to wear a coat in cold weather.

Additional PE safety equipment

If your child is taking part in Football and Rugby on the field, then boots are compulsory. We only expect each student to have one pair of boots. We also strongly recommend students having shin pads for Football. As a Department, PE do have a small number of these supplies that can be loaned. We welcome any donations.

Ashby Sixth Form Dress Code

The majority of students prefer to have a dress code in the Sixth Form, as this saves competitive dressing and daily concerns over what to wear. We expect Sixth Form to dress as if they are working in a business/office environment, thus low-cut tops, strappy tops, shorts, flip flops etc are not acceptable.

Issues with the dress code will be dealt with by Form Tutors in the first instance. Students may be asked to return home to change into appropriate clothing.

Footwear

Footwear must be black or brown and plain. Plimsolls, trainers, knee high boots and canvas shoes are not acceptable. Footwear should be suitable for an office environment.

Trousers

Plain black or grey trousers – this does not include black/grey denim or denim effect fabric. Trousers should be full length, plain cut, of a traditional style and with no studs or buttons. Skinny jeans, jean style chinos, black/grey jeans, leggings or jeggings are **not permitted**.

Skirts

Black, grey or burgundy (plain or patterned) 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

Dresses

Dresses can be worn but need to be black, grey or burgundy (plain or patterned) and of a **sensible** length (mid-thigh or lower). No denim material is permitted. Fabric jersey / stretch / bodycon dresses are also **not permitted** as we believe that these are not appropriate business attire

Tights

Plain black or grey tights

Tops

Plain polo neck or crew neck T shirts in black, grey, white or burgundy can be worn.

Plain black, grey, white or burgundy shirts/blouses can be worn.

Plain black, grey, white or burgundy sweaters, sweatshirts or cardigans may be worn. (No hoodies)

No thin-strapped / vest style tops (shoulders must be covered). No exposed mid-riffs. No large logos on any item of clothing.

Outdoor Jackets

Outdoor jackets must be in keeping with professional office dress (denim is unacceptable). **No hoodies, zipped or otherwise, at any time.**

Tattoos

No visible tattoos are permitted.

Hair Colour

Hair should be a natural colour even if dyed, ie. no pink, blue, green colour is acceptable.

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 and/or jumper, tie and PE top* are the only essential items that feature our school logo and need to be ordered from a school stockist.
- PE uniform - this was introduced as students joined our Key Stage 3 so we did not create an extra burden on incoming Year 10 parents who traditionally 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 (**PE Kit only**) <https://www.lissport.co.uk/>

Equipment

Every student is expected to provide the following basic items of equipment for every lesson:

- Black or blue ballpoint pen (and a spare)
- Red/other colour ballpoint pen
- Pencil
- Coloured pencils/Fine fibre tip pens
- Pencil eraser
- Pencil sharpener

- 30cm ruler
- Scientific calculator (see website for more details)
- Protractor
- Glue Stick
- Highlighter
- Sensible bag, large enough to carry books and equipment.
- Tippex/Liquid Correction fluid is not allowed in school and must not be used on any school work. Permanent markers are also not to be brought to school.

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