



Dress Code

Approved by: Damien Sweeney, Headteacher

Reviewed by: SLT

Latest review: Summer 2023

Next review date: Summer 2024

Cornerstone Academy Dress Code

Students should be smart and dressed appropriately for a place of learning.

- Students should wear school uniform: Black or grey trousers, skirt, polo top, jumper, cardigan.
- Tracksuits are allowed for PE.
- Trousers should be worn at waist height, not off (or below!) the hips.
- Students can wear knee length school shorts in the summer months. We ask you not to wear sports shorts. Leggings should be of good quality.
- Dressing for the beach is not appropriate.
- Students should not wear clothing items with bad or offensive language, that which depicts motifs of a drug culture or images that depict an individual in revealing and or inappropriate poses.
- Headwear is not to be worn inside school buildings – unless for religious or medical reasons.
- Sensible jewellery can be worn (facial jewellery such as eyebrow studs and nose/lip studs may not be acceptable: this is at the discretion of the Head teacher).
- If leather items such as jackets, trousers or boots are worn they should be without motifs, studs or metallic decorations.

Although we appreciate style and individuality, please respect the fact that this is a school and consequently ask you to abide by the rules of the dress code, which is still very flexible and allows plenty of scope for self-expression. Children act as role models around the school by:

- Being polite and supportive to peers and younger students as well as teaching and support staff. Sexist, racist or homophobic words and behaviour are not acceptable.
- This is a non-smoking environment; smoking is not permitted in or around the vicinity of the academy, including the recreational ground and car parks.
- No alcohol, drugs or any drug related culture (including legal highs) should be brought into the school environment or taken/purchased on school trips

We expect all students to use school facilities in an appropriate way by:

- Looking after the common areas and in particular clearing away rubbish into the bins, reporting any damage or destruction of property immediately and have no feet on chairs or tables.
- Students should develop a mature work ethic, which includes: Attending and actively taking part in all lessons.

Limiting the cost of school uniform

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

We will make sure our dress code is:

- Is available at a reasonable cost
- Provides the best value for money for parents/carers

We will do this by:

Limiting items with distinctive characteristics to low-cost or long-lasting items, such as ties/Polo tops/jumpers/skirts/trousers/socks and shoes.

Keeping the number of optional branded items to a minimum, so that the school's uniform can act as a social leveller

Avoiding different uniform requirements for different year/class/house groups

Avoiding different uniform requirements for extra-curricular activities

Considering alternative methods for signalling differences in groups for interschool competitions, such as creating posters or labels

Making sure that arrangements are in place for parents to acquire second-hand uniform items. We encourage parents and carers to speak to their class teacher if they are experiencing any difficulties.

Avoiding frequent changes to uniform specifications and minimising the financial impact on parents of such changes.

Consulting with parents and pupils on any proposed significant changes to the uniform policy and carefully considering any complaints about the policy.