



Top Valley Academy Uniform and Equipment Policy

Making your appearance count!

RATIONALE

Top Valley Academy believes that all pupils should be empowered to achieve and aspire to the highest, be treated with respect and treat others with respect, and enjoy the Academy. All pupils at Top Valley Academy are expected to reflect this attitude of mutual respect in being smartly dressed in complete Academy uniform, both when in the Academy and to and from the Academy. The uniform is the visible sign of belonging to Top Valley Academy and it should be worn with pride. The local community recognises The Top Valley Academy uniform and it is therefore extremely important that all members of the Academy present themselves in a positive and well-ordered way. The Academy is committed to smart, formal dress for all pupils and staff to reflect that fact that the Academy is in the business of learning. In hot weather the Principal may announce a period of time when jackets or jumpers need not be worn.

If there are any requests on religious grounds to vary the uniform by an individual pupil, then these must be made by the individual's parents/carers to the Deputy Principal. The individual case will be considered and discussed by the Academy leadership Team and a decision made which balances the needs of the individual with the needs of the community. The variation will not be allowed if it undermines the stated objectives of the policy. However, every effort would be made to accommodate special needs within the stated policy objectives.

In order to ensure that pupils are prepared for learning, and valuable time is not wasted at the start of any lesson it is vital that pupils have the correct equipment with them at all times and a suitable bag that is big enough to contain all the equipment required.

OBJECTIVES

- Help to create a learning environment which is characterised by respect, and a focus on high standards
- Develop self-discipline amongst pupils and a sense of responsibility to others within the Academy community
- Ensure a prompt start to lessons with equipment ready
- Raise pupils' self-esteem by wearing of formal business dress
- Create a sense of pride within the Academy community

PROCEDURES

- It is expected that all parents/carers will support the implementation of the uniform rules
- All Academy staff will support the policy both in the classroom and in and around the Academy. (Turning a blind eye to a breach of the uniform rules would be giving tacit approval to the breach). Achievement Leaders and Form Tutors will play an important role in monitoring uniform on a daily basis. Achievement Leaders will liaise with parents/carers where there are problems of an on-going nature. Every subject teacher will check uniform on entry into the classroom and insist on the correct wearing of the uniform. Any breaches will be referred to the pupil's Form Tutor.
- Variations to the prescribed Academy uniform are forbidden and any pupil who is in breach of Academy uniform rules will be removed from lessons and/or sent home to change until the rules are followed
- No jewellery at all is to be worn, except a watch and 1 small stud at most in each ear if desired. No visible piercings or ear stretching is permitted. Clear plastic retainers have to be worn where there are existing visible piercings. No visible make-up will be tolerated. Shirts and ties must be worn correctly, eg shirts must be tucked in and collars buttoned
- Large amounts of money and expensive personal effects should not be brought into the Academy. The Academy WILL NOT accept liability with regard to theft, loss or damage to these items. Money should be kept in a wallet or money belt for security reasons
- Mobile Phones, music players and other electronic devices such as pagers and computer games are NOT allowed in the Academy. If brought into the Academy all such items must remain switched off during the Academy day and kept out of sight in the pupil's bag. If such an item is taken out of a pupil's bag it will be confiscated, and a parent/carer asked to collect it from the Academy. Chewing gum will be permanently disposed of.

Top Valley Academy uniform	
Academy Blazer White shirt, long or short sleeves Academy Tie Plain Black Trousers/skirt Grey Academy V Neck Jumper/Cardigan Plain black tights/socks Smart black shoes	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blazer - must be worn at all times around the school buildings. Pupils may remove them in lessons. Only School badges can be pinned on.• White shirt – can be long or short sleeved but must remain tucked into trousers at all times, with all buttons, including the top button, fastened.	

- Academy tie - ties must be worn at all times. The clip-on tie must remain done up properly at all times, with the top button of the shirt fastened.
- Trousers – no jeans or denim-type material and no combats. Trousers should be plain black with no fashion detail. Plain black skirts can be worn but they must touch the knee. Tights should be plain black/flesh with no patterns. Slim, black trouser belts only.
- Shoes – no visible branding and no canvas material. Shoes should be plain black and smart.
- Make-up – light foundation may be worn and minimal eye make-up only.
- Jewellery – one set of earrings and one finger ring only. No other facial jewellery.

PE Kit

White polo shirt
Black track suit bottoms
Trainers

Uniform expectations

We want you to wear your uniform with pride and take pride in your appearance. There are, therefore, certain expectations around exactly how the uniform should be worn.

Any pupil not in full Academy uniform will be kept off timetable in the Pupil Support Centre, including break and lunchtimes, until the matter is resolved.

Policy written by the Principal in consultation with staff in July 2012

Approved by Governing Body on 21 August 2012

To be reviewed by the Principal and Governing Body Annually