



Barnsley Academy

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Part of United Learning

Uniform Policy

September 2025-26



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Introduction

Barnsley Academy believes that a clear and consistent uniform supports a purposeful learning ethos and ensures that students are prepared for education and wider school activities, including organised events outside normal school hours.

Aims

This policy is based on Department for Education principles and the belief that a school uniform: promotes the ethos of the school; provides a sense of belonging and identity; sets an appropriate tone for learning; and is regarded as suitable and good value for money by most parents and carers.

Equalities

Barnsley Academy is committed to equal access to uniform regardless of culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability, and to a positive climate free from intimidation and harassment.

Gender-neutral options: Students may choose trousers, skirts or formal shorts irrespective of gender identity; all styles are offered in a range of fits.

Reasonable adjustments: Where an EHCP or individual need exists, reasonable adjustments to uniform may be agreed by the SENDCO and documented accordingly.

Scope

This policy applies to all Barnsley Academy students in Years 7–11 while on site, travelling to and from school, and during off-site activities unless otherwise stated by staff.



Uniform Expectations

General Uniform Expectations

- **Blazer:** Black Academy blazer with the Barnsley Academy logo; worn at all times unless permission is given by staff to remove.
- **Shirt:** Plain white collared shirt (short or long sleeved); polo-type shirts are not permitted. A plain white T-shirt may be worn underneath. Shirts must be buttoned to the collar and tucked in; collars turned down.
- **Tie:** Barnsley Academy clip-on tie worn correctly. Student council/ambassador ties are issued by the Academy and must be worn if applicable.
- **Bottoms:** Barnsley Academy trousers, formal shorts, or skirt.
- **Footwear:** Black, polishable shoes; no trainers, trainer-style shoes, or boots.
- **Outdoor coats:** Permitted and promoted to be worn.
- **Knitwear (optional):** Barnsley Academy jumper or plain black V-neck jumper/cardigan.

Adjustments: Any deviations for SEND/medical reasons must be formally agreed and signed off by the SENDCO.

School Bags

School bags are compulsory. All students should have a strong, rucksack style school bag that is big enough to contain a planner, pencil case, books and any other equipment outlined in the equipment list below. If food or drink items are brought to school, these must be placed in the student's school bag. If a student has PE kit that does not fit into the bag, an additional bag may be brought to school for that separate purpose.

To support organisation, readiness for learning and equality, since September 2023, all new Year 7 students have been provided with a Barnsley Academy branded rucksack free of charge; this must be brought to school as part of the list of uniform items. There will be a phased roll-out of these branded school bags, which will be compulsory uniform items for different year groups according to the following roll-out schedule:

Academic Year	Applicable Year Groups
2024-25	Year 7 and 8
2025-26	Year 7, 8 and 9
2026-27	Year 7, 8, 9 and 10
2027-28	Year 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11

In addition, as with other uniform items, if for any reason a student is unable or has chosen not to bring an appropriate bag to school, the following procedure will happen:

- Students will be offered to borrow a bag that is provided by the Academy and return the bag at the end of the day.

OR

- The student's parent/carer will be contacted to bring the missing bag to the Academy. The students may be required to wait in the Reflection Room until the bag issue is resolved.

If we cannot contact the parent/carer or any other of the named contacts, and the student refuses to borrow a bag then they will be placed into the Reflection Room for the day until 2.50pm. Refusal to go to the Reflection Room may result in a Fixed Term Suspension for persistent defiance to comply with Academy rules.



Other Uniform Expectations

Jewellery: One wristwatch only; smart watches are not allowed. Facial piercings are not permitted; transparent retainers may replace ear or nose piercings. Non-compliance may lead to confiscation until the end of the school day and/or placement in the Reflection Room. Medical identity jewellery may be worn with proof.

Nails: False nails are not permitted; refusal to remove may result in Reflection Room.

Hair: No extreme hairstyles (e.g., tramlines, Mohican or skinhead types; carved patterns; unnatural/vibrant colours). Ambiguity will be resolved by the Principal/Senior Vice Principal. Long hair must be tied back for PE, Technology and Science.

Make-up: Minimal, natural-looking makeup only; heavy eyebrows, excessive fake tan, false eyelashes and excessive mascara are not allowed. Final decisions rest with the Principal/Senior Vice Principal.

PE Kit Policy

All students are required to wear the following kit for PE lessons:

- PE Shirt: Barnsley Academy branded shirt
- Shorts: Navy blue or black, knee-length. Nike Pro shorts are not permitted as standalone garments but may be worn underneath for compression.
- Tracksuit Bottoms: Plain navy blue or black
- Sweatshirt/Hoodie: Navy blue or black, without large logos
- Sports Bras: For female students
- Socks: A clean change of socks
- Footwear: Laced trainers providing ankle support

No other colours, large logos or designs are permitted on any item of PE kit.

If students forget/bring incorrect kit, a loaned kit will be provided and department sanctions may apply for persistent issues.

Jewellery is not permitted in PE; plastic retainers must be removed. Hair should be tied back for health and safety.

Important: Students must bring their full PE kit to every lesson, even if they are unable to participate due to medical reasons or injury. In such cases, students will be expected to take on an alternative role, such as coaching or umpiring.

Roles and Responsibilities: Staff and Parents/Carers

Class teachers and support staff: Check uniform on entry/exit to every lesson; challenge infringements and apply sanctions where appropriate. They also liaise with parents of students who persistently fail to comply and follow DfE guidance not to consider exclusion where students engage with support.

Form tutors: Address uniform issues during registration; work with class teachers and support staff to correct uniform and apply sanctions where needed. They communicate with parents where issues persist.

Parents/carers: Ensure children attend in correct uniform each day; communicate proactively over genuine issues; support the school's sanctions as per policy; ensure all required equipment is brought daily.



Uniform checks

Uniform checks are conducted every morning at the student entrance and throughout the day by staff. If for any reason a student is unable or has chosen not to wear full Academy uniform, the following procedure will happen:

- Students will be offered to wear the uniform that is provided by the Academy and return the item of uniform at the end of the day (this will also apply for school bags).

OR

- The student's parent/carer will be contacted to bring the missing uniform to the Academy. The students may be required to wait in the Reflection Room until the uniform issue is resolved.

If we cannot contact the parent/carer or any other of the named contacts, and the student refuses to borrow uniform then they will be placed into the Reflection Room for the day until 2.50pm. Refusal to go to the Reflection Room may result in a Fixed Term Suspension for persistent defiance to comply with Academy rules.

We will contact the parent/carer to discuss when the issue can be resolved and come to an agreed timeframe with support offered where required.

Full uniform is expected to be worn when students walk to and from the Academy at the start and end of each school day. Staff on duty before and after school will challenge any students breaching these rules as they enter/leave the Academy site.

Academy Equipment

To support readiness for learning, all students are expected to come to school fully equipped each day with the following items: 1 x school bag, 1 x pencil case, 2 x black pens, 2 x green pens, 2 x red pens, 1 x pencil, 1 x rubber, 1 x ruler, 1 x scientific calculator (KS4). Equipment checks take place on BASE (Barnsley Academy Student Entrance) each morning as students enter the Academy.

Students without equipment will be given replacement items from BASE in the morning. Teachers will refer repeated instances of missing equipment during lessons to Heads of Year to ensure we are aware of any persistent issues that we may need to pass on to parents/carers.

Branded Items

The term 'branded item' is not just an item with a logo. It is used to describe an item of clothing with distinctive characteristics which make it unique to the school or trust. As a general rule, if an item cannot be purchased at a range of retailers it is likely to be a branded item.

Barnsley Academy Branded Items

Tie: Barnsley Academy clip-on tie (standard light blue unless issued for a specific student group).

Blazer: Sourced from three providers on locality and pricing (including one online retailer identified via parental suggestion).

Trousers/Skirt/Formal Shorts: Sourced from two local providers, available in styles to suit different body types and sizes; formal shorts are optional and may be worn year-round.

PE Top: The only compulsory branded item of PE kit; all other PE items may be purchased from high-street stores or online.

Optional branded items:

Optional knitwear: Branded jumper/cardigan available from suppliers; plain black alternatives permitted.



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This ensures compliance with DfE guidance by limiting compulsory branded items to a maximum of four (including the tie) and offering generic alternatives for other uniform components

Uniform Supplier Engagement

Barnsley Academy regularly reviews prices with our current suppliers, and we endeavour to work with these suppliers to keep costs low. We do this by keeping uniform changes to a minimum to allow suppliers to purchase stock in bulk.

Uniform Supplier List

Vortex School Wear – Barnsley:

<https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/Secondary-Schools/Barnsley-Academy/>

Vortex Branded Items Costing:

Barnsley Academy Tie - £6.50
Barnsley Academy Blazer (from) - £32.00
Barnsley Academy Trousers (from) - £15.00
Barnsley Academy Skirt (from) - £18.00
Barnsley Academy PE Top (from) - £14.00

Smart Uniforms (School Uniform Centre) – Barnsley:

<https://smartuniforms.co.uk/product-category/schools-2/barnsley/secondary-schools-6/barnsley-academy/>

Smart Uniforms Branded Items Costing:

Barnsley Academy Tie - £5.99
Barnsley Academy Blazer (from) - £22.99
Barnsley Academy Trousers (from) - £12.99
Barnsley Academy Skirt (from) - £12.99
Barnsley Academy PE Top (from) - £9.99

My Clothing (online retailer):

<https://myclothing.com/collections/the-barnsley-academy-9337?t=1594889569804>

My Clothing Branded Items Costing:

Barnsley Academy Blazer (from) - £26.00 + delivery

Price Comparison Chart

Supplier	Tie	Blazer	Trousers	Skirt	PE Top
Vortex School Wear (Barnsley)	£6.50	from £32.00	from £15.00	from £18.00	from £14.00
Smart Uniforms – School Uniform Centre (Barnsley)	£5.99	from £22.99	from £12.99	from £12.99	from £9.99
My Clothing (online retailer)	N/A	from £26.00	from £12.50	from £12.00	from £9.00



Sustainability

The Academy will work with suppliers to explore eco-friendly fabrics and recycling options and encourages families to reuse/recycle uniform through second-hand schemes and community groups.

Uniform Support for Parents/Carers

Provision of second-hand uniforms

To reduce waste and help those in need we happily accept donations of pre-loved school uniform and thank those who have previously donated pre-loved school uniform.

We are happy to accept good quality donations from parents whose children have outgrown their uniform or are leaving after Y11. We accept school blazers, trousers, skirts, school shoes and PE kits. These items can then be passed on to others who need them.

We regularly donate uniform items to the 'Caring for Kendray' group who distribute uniform to our local community free of charge. We also encourage parents of Year 11 children either to donate uniform items back to the school or pass them on to other families.

We also support Academy parents using the Barnsley Academy Uniform Facebook Page and also the Barnsley Academy Parents Facebook Page where uniform is re-distributed either free of charge or for a minimal cost between parents.

Financial Hardship

Families experiencing hardship should contact the Safeguarding Team to discuss support so that uniform is not a barrier to accessing school.

Complaints regarding uniform

Disputes about the cost of school uniform should be pursued in accordance with the Academy's Complaints Policy, available on the website.

Linked Policies

- Warm/Strict Behaviour Policy

Monitoring and Review

The Operations Team will monitor compliance, affordability and feedback; termly reports will be reviewed by SLT and Governors to ensure the policy remains fair, inclusive and cost-effective. In addition, the review will confirm compliance with Department for Education guidance on limiting compulsory branded items to a maximum of four (including a tie) and ensuring generic alternatives are available for other items. Annual checks will include:

- Verification that branded item limits are maintained.
- Assessment of affordability and availability of second-hand options.
- Consultation with parents/carers on uniform costs and accessibility.
- Confirmation that suppliers meet competitive pricing expectations



Parent FAQ

Why introduce branded items? To strengthen school identity, support equality and ensure consistency across the student body.

How can we manage costs? Use the price comparison table, second-hand options, and contact the Safeguarding Team for support where needed.

Are gender-neutral options available? Yes—students may choose trousers, skirts or formal shorts irrespective of gender identity.

How do we access second-hand uniform? Via the school collection point, termly swap events, Caring for Kendray donations, and Academy Facebook exchange groups.



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