



Fir Vale Academy

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Uniform Policy

Document Owner	Miss D Gautry
Last Review	September 2026
Next Review	September 2027
Approved By	SIB Members

At Fir Vale Academy, we believe that a smart and consistent uniform promotes a sense of pride, belonging and identity within the school community. A clear uniform policy supports high standards, reduces distractions to learning, promotes equality and ensures that students are dressed appropriately for the Academy environment.

We recognise that uniform contributes positively to students' readiness to learn and helps foster a culture of high expectations. All students are expected to wear the correct uniform at all times unless specific arrangements have been agreed by the Academy.

Legal Context & Statutory Information

Equality Act 2010

Fir Vale Academy is committed to ensuring that its uniform policy is fair, inclusive and compliant with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010.

The Academy will not discriminate against students on the grounds of protected characteristics, including sex, race, disability, religion or belief. Reasonable adjustments will be considered where a student is unable to comply with aspects of the uniform policy due to a disability, medical condition, religious observance or cultural requirement.

Students may wear clothing or items associated with their faith or beliefs, if these are safe, appropriate for the school environment and consistent with the Academy's safeguarding and health and safety requirements.

Department for Education Guidance on School Uniform

This policy has been developed in line with the Department for Education's guidance on school uniform and the statutory guidance contained within the School Uniform (Guidance about Costs of School Uniforms) Act 2021.

The Academy is committed to ensuring that:

- Uniform requirements are reasonable and represent good value for money.
- The cost of uniform does not create unnecessary barriers to attendance or participation.
- Branded items are kept to a minimum where possible.
- Uniform items can be obtained from a range of suppliers wherever appropriate.
- Parents and carers are provided with clear and accessible information regarding uniform expectations.

When reviewing this policy, the Academy will consider the views of students, parents, carers and the wider school community.

Accessibility and Reasonable Adjustments

Fir Vale Academy recognises that some students may require adjustments to the standard uniform because of:

- Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND).
- Medical conditions.
- Sensory needs.
- Religious or cultural requirements.

Requests for reasonable adjustments will be considered on an individual basis, in consultation with students, parents/carers and relevant professionals where appropriate.

Promoting High Standards and Inclusion

The Academy believes that a consistent uniform contributes positively to:

- A sense of belonging and community.
- Equality amongst students.
- High expectations and standards.
- Readiness to learn.
- A safe and purposeful learning environment.

Uniform expectations will be implemented consistently and proportionately, with due regard to individual circumstances and the needs of students.

Support for Families

Fir Vale Academy recognises that families may experience financial difficulties and is committed to ensuring that no student is disadvantaged because of the cost of uniform.

Where appropriate, the Academy may provide support through:

- Access to pre-loved uniform.
- Financial assistance schemes.
- Signposting to local charities and community organisations.
- Flexible arrangements in exceptional circumstances.

Parents and carers who require support should contact the Academy in confidence so that appropriate assistance can be considered.

Uniform Expectations

Uniform Expectations for all students are as follows:

- White shirt with a collar
- Academy tie
- Black jumper with Fir Vale Academy logo
- Plain black school trousers – not leggings, combat-style trouser or jeans
- Plain black ankle length skirt
- Plain black shoes or trainers – no patterns, logos or coloured heels/soles
- Jewellery – One pair of stud earrings and one small plain ring
- Optional – Black blazer with Fir Vale Academy logo
- Optional – Plain black hijab
- We do not allow full or partial face covering (unless for medical reasons).

Academy Ties

- Year 7 – Blue Sapphire
- Year 8 – Green
- Year 9 – Yellow
- Year 10 – Blue Saxe
- Year 11 – Black

Outdoor coats/jackets must be removed upon entering the building – they are not to be worn indoors unless moving to break or lunchtime.

PE Kit Expectations:

Students must bring their PE kit to school in a bag on PE days. The PE kit consists of:

- Plain black T-shirt with Fir Vale Academy logo
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms or black leggings (no logos or branding)
- Plain black jumper (optional – no logos or branding)
- Plain black trainers
- Optional – plain black hijab
- Jewellery of any kind is **not** permitted in PE lessons

Monitoring and Compliance

Uniform standards will be monitored daily by Academy staff. The Academy will always seek to understand the reason for any uniform issue and work collaboratively with families to resolve concerns before applying sanctions wherever possible.

Where students do not comply with uniform expectations, the Academy will work with students and families to identify and remove barriers to compliance. Where there is no reasonable explanation, consequences may be applied in line with the Academy Behaviour Policy.

Review

This policy will be reviewed annually by the Vice Principal approved in accordance with the Academy's policy review schedule.

Contact Information

If you have any concerns or require assistance with uniform, please contact the school office at 01142439391 or email enquiries@firvale.com.

Thank you for your continued support in maintaining the high standards expected at Fir Vale Academy.