



Avonbourne Boys' & Girls' Academies

The best in everyone™

Part of United Learning

Avonbourne Academies

Uniform Policy

Spring 2026

Academic Year September 2026

Uniform Rationale

Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies aim to give all students the foundations for a successful life by helping them to develop the skills and attitudes that will provide them with real life-chances.

We believe our Academy uniform achieves four important goals

- High expectations and immaculate 1st impressions.
- It encourages a sense of community identity and pride. By wearing the same badge and the same clothing, students are encouraged to think of the needs of the community as well as their own individual needs and makes all students ambassadors for the Academy in the local community.
- It encourages our students to develop habits for life. By learning to polish their shoes, fold trousers or hang up their blazers, students learn the habits of discipline and personal responsibility as a smart appearance is an increasingly important aspect of modern life.
- It prevents unkindness or bullying while keeping costs down and making it cost effective for parents in the long run. By requiring all our students to wear the same low-cost uniform, we reduce the incentive for students to ask parents for the latest (and most expensive) items of fashion. Whilst in the Academy, this allows students to focus on their academic performance rather than on what they are wearing.

Our Academy aims to prepare students for a successful life and so an emphasis on taking pride in one's own appearance is an essential part of the educational process.

However, for our uniform policy to be successful, it must be implemented universally and without exception. We understand that, for some families, finances are tight. We believe that, by doing all we can to keep items of fashion out of school, we help families to keep costs down. Nevertheless, if you do have an individual problem, or you are unsure about an item of clothing, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Head of Year who will deal with your enquiry in the strictest confidence.

Year 7: classof2033@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Year 8: classof2032@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Year 9: classof2031@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Year 10: classof2030@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

Year 11: classof2029@avonbourneacademy.org.uk

At Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academies, we only allow skirts, jumpers, blazers and ties and purchased through our supplier. This way we ensure that all of our students look as smart and professional as each other.

Our supplier also offers shirts as well as other items, but it is not compulsory for parents to purchase these items through our supplier.

Please note that some items are compulsory, whereas others are optional. Items marked with an asterisk (*) can only be bought via the following supplier:

Stevensons

<https://www.stevensons.co.uk/schools/avonbourne-girls-school-bournemouth/165>

<https://www.stevensons.co.uk/schools/avonbourne-boys-school-bournemouth/176>

Email: bournemouthbranch@stevensons.co.uk **Telephone:** 01202 425192

We give below some notes for guidance and clarification.

School uniform lists can sometimes seem over detailed and over particular. Our experience is that we prevent misunderstandings by being very precise about our requirements.

We do not wish parents to spend money on items we do not allow to be worn. It should be noted that not all items under 'school uniform' in some stores fulfil the school's uniform requirements.

The full support of parents is requested with regard to their children wearing the correct uniform.

Please note students must be in full uniform when travelling to and from the Academy as well as when in the Academy (except when permission has been given because of school educational visits)

Please note from September 2024 the badges for Avonbourne Academy on the Blazer and PE top will reflect 'Avonbourne Academies' as opposed to 'Avonbourne Boys' Academy' or 'Avonbourne Girls' Academy'.

Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academy Uniform

	New Uniform	Not Acceptable
Blazer *	Avonbourne Academies Blazer purchased from Stevensons	-No blazer -Pushed up sleeves -Any garment other than school jumper and shirt underneath
Jumper *	Avonbourne Academies Grey V Neck Jumper with navy stripe purchased from Stevensons	-Sweatshirt -Non regulation jumper -Fleece -Tracksuit -Hooded top -Waistcoat -Cardigan
Trousers	Mid Grey, classic tailored style Any belts should be black	-Not light grey or black -Fashion trousers (corduroy/bootlegs/ skinny trousers/lycra) -Studs, visible buttons or trimmings -Shorts -Stretchy Material -Leggings
Skirt *	Avonbourne Academy Grey and Navy skirt purchased from Stevensons. The skirt should sit on the knee.	-Rolled/tucked up skirts -Skirts that do not sit on the knee

Shirt	Plain white school shirt Tucked in and buttoned at the neck	-Casual/fashion shirt -Shirt worn without a tie or with tie tucked in -Shirts worn outside trousers/skirts -Exposed midriff
Tie *	Avonbourne Academies grey and navy striped tie purchased from Stevensons £7 (spares can also be purchased from our Parent Pay system and collected from Student Reception)	-Ties worn incorrectly
Footwear	Traditional black leather flat or low-heeled school shoes Laces, soles and stitching must be black Black shoes should be worn on the way to and from the Academy Students will not be allowed to attend lessons if the correct shoes are not worn in the Academy Please see images below to clarify acceptable and unacceptable shoes.	-Trainers (even if black) -Sandals/slingbacks/backless shoes -Boots -Coloured/Fluorescent laces. -Canvas/fabric shoes or pumps -Trimmings i.e. buckles, labels, tags or decorations – High-heels/stilettos/ platforms/ wedges The Academy will reserve the right to decide what represents a trainer, even when the retailer has marketed the shoe as suitable for school.
Socks and Tights	Plain black socks or plain black tights	-Coloured, white or patterned socks or tights -No trainer socks -No knee length socks -No socks to be worn over the top of tights
Hair and Makeup	Conventional style and natural colour If hair is long, it is essential it is tied back for reasons of health and safety in some practical lessons Any hair bands/clips must be subtle and grey/navy/black in colour Makeup – Natural/subtle make up will be excepted (light foundation and light mascara) in Years 9, 10 and 11 ONLY The Academy will reserve the right to decide what represents natural makeup school and will expect students to remove makeup if not acceptable.	Please see further guidance on Boys’/Girls’ hair below -Unnatural colour -Decorative attachments -Tram lines -Hair extensions -Shaved eyebrows -Nail varnish -Nail extensions -No false eyelashes

Jewellery	Maximum of two small plain stud-like earrings (one in each ear) Smart watches are permitted as long as they are used appropriately. If not used appropriately these will be confiscated and returned to parents.	- No rings - Any facial or body piercing - No accessories are to be worn around the neck/wrist or attached to clothing
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Footwear

If parents/carers are unsure as to whether a particular style will be accepted, they should check a picture of the shoe with the Academy before purchasing.

Shoes:

Black formal leather/leather look shoes. Non-sports footwear cannot be branded with sports logos. Trainers may only be worn for PE and must not be worn to / from the Academy unless for cycling. Football boots must have non-metal studs.

Acceptable examples:

Boys



Girls



Unacceptable examples:



Hair

Students' hair must be in a conventional and understated style.

In addition, there should be no severe contrast between the top of the hair and the sides. Short sides must be faded gradually into the top of the haircut so there is no noticeable 'step' or layering.

Some specific styles that are **not permitted**:

- Patterns shaved into a student's hair or eyebrows, including an artificial parting or tramlines
- High or flamboyant hair styles, such as a 'Mohican'
- Any unnatural colours or extensions
- Styles that hide the face
- Any other hairstyles that the Academy considers to be inappropriate

Hair must also be in a conventional and understated style.

This list is not exhaustive, and the Academy will have the final decision on what is/is not acceptable.

Some of our girls may choose to wear headscarves for religious reasons. Headscarves must be black, grey or navy blue. Pins or clips must be small, dark in colour and understated. There can be no decorations such as sequins or patterns. Material must not be too long at the front or the back so as to obscure the uniform or look untidy. At the front, headscarves material must not go below the V-neck of a jumper or equivalent.

Avonbourne Boys' and Girls' Academy PE and Dance Kit

	PE Kit	Not Acceptable
Indoor Lessons	Navy fitted polo shirt Navy skort or shorts (these can be purchased from Stevensons or elsewhere) <i>OR</i> Navy Leggings ONLY if Lycra sport leggings <i>From September 2024, Sports navy leggings will be permitted to be worn on their own for PE/Dance lessons</i>	Navy Leggings that are not sports leggings

	White Sports Socks Suitable sports trainers	
Outdoor Lessons	Navy fitted polo shirt Navy skort or shorts (these can be purchased from Stevensons or elsewhere) <u>OR</u> Navy Lycra sports Leggings Suitable sports trainers and football boots/astro trainers Shin Pads	-Jumpers -Hoodies -Coats -Rain Jackets
Trainers/Footwear	Sports style running trainers which are lace up	-Fashion trainers -Skate shoes -Plimsolls -Fluorescent laces -Fluffy, grippy bed socks

Optional PE/Dance Items

- Avonbourne long sleeve sports top purchased from Stevensons
- Avonbourne waterproof jacket purchased from Stevensons
- Tracksuit bottoms (students may wear plain navy tracksuit bottoms from other suppliers, but these must have **no branding** or **detail** e.g. stripes)
- Plain navy jumper (without logo or hood)
- Base layers can be worn under PE uniform (blue, black or white)
- Leggings/skins purchased from other suppliers (blue, black or white) can be worn as base layers underneath shorts/skorts but not instead of shorts/skorts.
- Gum Shield
- Plain gloves and woollen hat (when appropriate and without logo)

Jewellery and Hair for PE and Dance Lessons

All jewellery and personal effects such as watches, necklaces and body piercings must be removed for PE and Dance related activities. Students will be reminded at each lesson to do so, it is the students responsibility to ensure this is done. **Students will NOT be able to take part in lessons until these items are removed and could have further sanctions. Please consider when ears are pierced.**

If, under exceptional circumstances, jewellery cannot be removed (e.g. cultural practice or newly pierced ears), the risk of injury must be reduced where it is practicable to do so.

- Studs being secure by the use of micropore tape or masking tape (not Sellotape or Elastoplast's).
- Medi-alert bracelets and necklaces will be worn by some children, and it is sensible to remove these items during the period of participation. The teaching and support staff will be

aware of the special circumstances relating to that child and will know how to react should difficulties arise.

Long hair must be tied back to prevent entanglement in apparatus and to prevent it obscuring vision. It is the student's responsibility to ensure this is done. *Please note this is also the case in Science and Technology lessons. Students with long hair should bring a suitable hair band to school each day.*

Items of clothing worn for religious and spiritual reasons, such as a head scarf or turban should allow unrestricted movement without being loose and should not hinder personal safety and protection for the activity concerned.

School Bags

It is essential students can carry all their necessary equipment with them. A good sized plain coloured backpack is found to be very convenient by most students for carrying A4 sized books and folders, equipment and outside coats.

Fashion bags are not suitable for carrying textbooks and school equipment. Bags should be **dark coloured** with minimal/discrete logos and colour trim.

Acceptable - dark coloured, suitable sized backpack



Not Acceptable - Handbags and Tote bags, bright colours, small fashion bags, pins and badges



***Nike Just do it mini rucksacks are not big enough to carry all the compulsory equipment for school**

Coats and Outdoors Wear

Only plain, dark (navy blue, black, dark grey) outside coats are acceptable (no logos or designer labels). Designer coats, fur coats, leather, denim, patterns or stripes are not acceptable. Plain black, blue or grey hats, gloves and scarves can be worn outside in the winter months. Coats, hats, gloves and scarves are not to be worn inside the Academy buildings. Baseball caps are not acceptable.

Cyclists

Cyclists should be wearing full Academy uniforms when riding their bicycles. They should not cycle while listening to a personal music device. All students cycling to the Academy must wear helmets. Please refer to our Cycling Policy for further information.

Expectations

All students are expected to appropriately wear the full Academy uniform from the moment they leave their home in the morning until they arrive home in the afternoon. Students are representing the Academy at all times and should be proud to be part of the Academy community. Any student bringing the Academy into disrepute by not adhering to the uniform policy will receive sanctions. In cases where the presentation of a student's uniform is not in line with the high standards expected, students will work in Silent Study until the issue is resolved. It is the responsibility of the parent/carer and the student to ensure that such situations are avoided.

Parent/Carers medical notes for uniform

If a student has a medical reason for the need to wear modified footwear, a medical note supplied by a doctor or medical practitioner must be provided specifying the exact type and brand of footwear (all such notes will be confirmed with the medical professional).

Date of this review	Spring 2026	Review period	1 Year
Date of next review	Spring 2027	Author	O Maund Senior Vice Principal
Type of policy	Statutory	Approved by I Bull	<i>I. Bull</i>