



# Astrea Academy Trust

INSPIRING BEYOND MEASURE

**Astrea Academy Dearne**

**Uniform Policy**

**2023/2024**

POLICY LEAD	Mr Paul Benson
POLICY APPROVED BY	Mr Eddie Child
DATE APPROVED	July 2023
DATE OF NEXT REVIEW	July 2024

# Uniform Expectations

At Astrea Academy Darne, we have high expectations of our scholars and we believe all scholars should wear their uniform with pride throughout the school day. Astrea Academy Dearne has carefully selected smart but affordable uniform that can be purchased through this link: <https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/Secondary-Schools/Astrea-Academy-Dearne/>

We only allow blazers, skirts, ties and PE polo shirts that are purchased through our nominated supplier, Vortex. This is a way in which we ensure that all of our scholars look as smart and as professional as each other. Our supplier also offers shirts and trousers, as well as other items, but it is not compulsory for parents to purchase these items through our supplier.

Vortex can be contacted using the following details:

**Vortex**

**Unit 2/3, Grange Lane Industrial Estate, Barnsley, South Yorkshire, S71 5AS**

**Email: [schools@vortexuk.com](mailto:schools@vortexuk.com)**

**Tel: 01226 202329**

[Astrea Academy Dearne \(vortexschoolwear.co.uk\)](https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk)

**In support of our values, uniform achieves three important objectives:**

- **It encourages a sense of community identity and pride.** By wearing the same badge and the same clothing, scholars are encouraged to think of the needs of the community as well as their own individual needs.
- **It encourages our scholars to develop habits for life.** By learning to, for example, polish their shoes, fold trousers or hang up their blazers, scholars learn the habits of discipline and personal responsibility that will stay with them for life.
- **It prevents unkindness or bullying while keeping costs down.** By requiring all our scholars to wear the same low-cost uniform, we reduce the incentive for scholars to ask parents for the latest (and most expensive) items of fashion. As a result, costs are kept as low as possible and no child can be seen to be poorer or wealthier than any other.

Parental support is imperative in supporting the high expectations Astrea Academy Dearne has. If parents are unsure if uniform meets Astrea's policy, please contact the academy prior to purchasing any item(s). Uniform should be worn correctly and if a scholar's uniform does not meet the required expectation, negative points will be awarded to scholars, in line with the behaviour policy. If a scholar arrives at the academy without the correct uniform, they will be provided with the correct uniform to wear. If a scholar refuses to wear borrowed uniform, the scholar will stay in the Reset Base until a parent or carer can bring in the correct uniform or remain in Reset Base until the end of the academy day.

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 Pastoral Leader who will deal with your enquiry in the strictest confidence.

## Blazers

Scholars are expected to wear the school blazer with the sleeves rolled down at all times during the school day. Blazers must be purchased from our approved supplier: <https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/> During warmer Summer months, staff will inform scholars when blazers are not expected to be worn. This will be at the discretion of the school.



## Trousers

Trousers can be purchased from any uniform supplier and should be full length, tailored, loose fitting and long enough to touch the shoe when a scholar is standing. Trousers should be plain black with no studs, patterns, rivets or back pockets. Tight fitting trousers, trousers with stretchy material, leggings, jeans and jeggings are not permitted. Trousers which cling to the ankle are not to be worn at school.



## Skirts

If your child wishes to wear a skirt, you must purchase this from our approved supplier: <https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/>.

Skirts must be knee length and include the school logo. Any scholar requiring a shorter length than is available to purchase from Vortex will be able to purchase this directly from school by making a fitting appointment. Skirts worn above the knee will not be acceptable and will need to be replaced. It is not permissible to alter the skirt in any way and if alterations are made, a new skirt will need to be purchased at the expense of parents and carers. Any other brand or style of skirt is not permitted. Black tights must be worn with skirts.



## Shirts

Shirts must be completely white with no logos and either short or long sleeved with a top button present and fastened at all times. Scholars must always have shirts fully tucked in and sleeves rolled down under blazers.



## Ties

Ties must be worn at all times and can be purchased from either our approved supplier or from the school shop <https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/>



## Socks and tights

Plain black socks or tights only. No white or patterned socks and tights are permitted. Socks must be ankle socks, covering the ankle bone and trainer socks are not permitted. A combination of tights and socks is not permissible.

## Shoes

Black leather or leather-style shoes that can be polished, with a flat sole are the only shoes that are permitted. No trainers, or trainer-style shoes, are allowed. The style should be traditional, avoiding the appearance of a trainer. Laces must be black.

Some specific styles that are not permitted:

- Styles that appear to be more like sports trainers than professional black shoes.
- Boots or ankle boots.
- Suede shoes.
- Styles that have more than one Velcro-fastener.
- Styles with obvious logos or branding.
- Elaborate buckles or decorations or patterns.



## Outdoor clothing

Scholars are advised to wear an outdoor coat when travelling to and from school and should remove it at the scholar entrance and keep it in their bag. Hoodies (with or without a zip), tracksuit tops and cardigans are not permitted. When inside the academy buildings, coats must be removed. Caps and hats are not allowed to be worn in the building.



## Belts

Belts should:

- Be black.
- Be leather (or leather effect).
- Have a small, professional buckle and no patterns or studs.
- Have no obvious branding or lettering.



## School bag

All scholars must bring a suitable bag to school which is able to hold A4 books, a Knowledge Organiser, a reading book, PE kit and stationery. A branded academy bag can be purchased from school for £20.



## School equipment

All scholars must bring the following equipment to school with them every day:

- A suitable school bag
- Black pen
- Blue pen
- Green pen
- Pencil
- 30cm ruler

If scholars forget their equipment, it can be purchased from the school shop and the cost can be added to ParentPay.



## PE Kit

PE kit must be worn for every PE lesson and be purchased from our approved supplier:

<https://www.vortexschoolwear.co.uk/> and consist of: Astrea Academy Dearne polo shirt, black tracksuit bottoms or leggings, black shorts, sports trainers, black socks and an elastic hair tie for long hair.



## Cadet Uniform

Members of Astrea Dearne CCF should wear their uniform on their parade days instead of school uniform. Formal uniform consists of black or brown boots, MTP trousers, shirt, belt and beret. Cadets with long hair must wear their hair up in a net or bun at all times. Berets should be removed when inside school.

## Hair

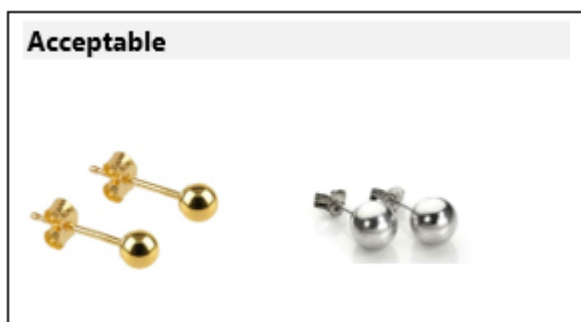
Hair should be a suitable, neat style. It should not be excessive and should have a natural colour/tone. Extremes of hairstyles or hair colour, **as decided by the academy**, are not acceptable in any circumstance. Hair that is shaved must be blended into the rest of the hair and not deemed as extreme. Hair that looks shorter than a 'number 2' cut will be considered extreme. The Principal's decision will be final.

## Make-Up

- No nail varnish or false/acrylic nails are permitted.
- We recognise that a conservative amount of makeup may be worn but must not be “**visible**”. For example, e.g. lip gloss, mascara, eyeliner and eyeshadow may be used sparingly. No false eyelashes, of any kind are permitted.
- Excessive make-up, false eye lashes and false nails are not permissible and scholars will need to remove them if worn, or be placed in our Reset Base. Decisions over what constitutes ‘natural’, ‘extreme’ or ‘excessive’ are at the discretion of the Principal.

## Jewellery

- One pair of small, plain, gold or silver studs (3mm maximum) are permitted in the lower ear lobe.
- No other jewellery of any kind may be worn.
- No other piercings of any kind are permitted, including eyebrow, nose, tongue, cartilage, lip-studs or rings.
- One wristwatch is allowed to be worn. This should be plain and understated in style. Smart watches and Fitbits are not allowed. Oversized fashion watches, watches in bright colours and watches worn as jewellery are not acceptable.
- Retainers and ear stretchers are not permitted.
- No accessories are to be worn around the neck, wrists, and ankles or attached to clothing.
- Only academy badges are permitted.
- If scholars attend school wearing these items, these will be confiscated and need to be collected by parents or carers. No consideration will be given to scholars who elect to have nose, or additional ear piercings that may be at risk of healing over, and clear studs are not allowed.



## Wearing the Uniform with Pride

Scholars are our ambassadors in the local community. Therefore, we expect all scholars to wear the full uniform correctly and with pride (e.g. with blazers on, ties on and with shirts tucked in), whilst on the academy premises and when travelling to and from the academy.

Key aspects of wearing the uniform correctly with pride are:

- No coats, hoodies or any other non-uniform outer clothing worn inside the school buildings
- Blazer always worn when moving around the academy
- Sleeves on blazers and shirts must not be rolled up
- Top button fastened on shirt
- Shirt tucked in
- Tie worn correctly
- No jewellery, apart from one small stud in each ear and a watch.

The Principal will make all final decisions on uniform, whether it is deemed acceptable and in line with the expectations we have of all our scholars.