

DARWEN VALE HIGH SCHOOL

An Aldridge Community Academy



28 March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the end of another successful Spring Term, I would like to take the opportunity to revisit our uniform and equipment expectations.

Uniform is an important part of a school's identity. It reinforces who we are as a community, creates equality and helps students to feel pride in their school. With regards to equipment, we are noticing that increasingly students are not arriving to school without the basic equipment to help them learn. We have unapologetically high standards of uniform and equipment, and we appreciate your support in advance for rectifying any issues ahead of the Summer Term.

I would also like to remind you that if any student is missing an item of uniform, they will receive a -3 uniform infringement detention which is 30 minutes the same day and they will be expected to borrow the missing item from our uniform store. If any student is missing a compulsory item of equipment this is again a -3 lack of equipment detention which is 30 minutes the same day.

Our uniform and equipment policy is available on our website here:

<https://www.darwenvale.com/policies>

For further clarification please see the guidance below:

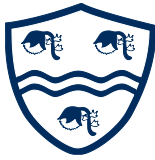
Equipment – Students must always have a bag, their student planner, a black pen, a pencil and a ruler. Replacement planners can be purchased on Parent Pay.

Skirts – Plain black, stitch down pleat (please ask uniform supplier for the official Darwen Vale skirt). **Please note an elasticated waist band, box pleat skirt is not acceptable.** As of August 2022, any purchased school skirt will feature our school badge which must be clearly visible at all times. **Waistbands must also be flat at all times.**



Tights – A reminder that students choosing to wear a skirt must continue to **wear tights and not socks.**

Tie – Official school tie must be always worn. Many students are currently missing a tie and will need to purchase a new tie over the Easter break. Students in Year 7 and Year 10 wear a House Tie. Replacement ties are available to purchase on Parent Pay.



DARWEN VALE HIGH SCHOOL

An Aldridge Community Academy



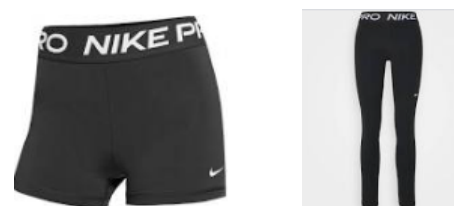
Blazer and Jumper – Official school blazer and DVHS jumper must be worn at all times. Students can ask permission to remove their blazer in lessons.

Shoes – black leather or simulated leather, formal school shoes, no branding and **no trainers**. Examples below:



Make up, false eyelashes, false nails, nail varnish or jewellery – must not be worn for school. If students have had false eyelashes or false nails applied over the Easter holidays, these must be removed and rectified prior to the first day back. Items of jewellery which are not in line with the policy will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day. If ears are already pierced, only one small, plain gold or silver-coloured stud (no jewels) may be worn in each ear lobe. No other body piercing is allowed, e.g., nose studs, tongue piercings or other ear piercings. All studs should be removed for PE for health and safety purposes.

PE kit – In Years 8-11 students can continue to wear the old Blue Darwen Vale PE kit. If wearing the new Black PE kit students must wear black tracksuit bottoms or black shorts. **Not Nike Pros, cycling shorts or leggings.**



If you are experiencing any financial difficulty in purchasing school uniform, equipment or PE kit, please do not hesitate to ask if we can be of any support by contacting your child's Head of Year on the details below:

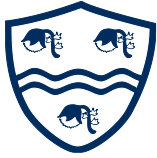
Year 7 – Adam Smith adam.smith@darwenvale.com

Year 8 – Jonathan Ainsworth jonathan.ainsworth@darwenvale.com

Year 9 – Claire McKenna Claire.mckenna@darwenvale.com

Year 10 – Rebecca Bridges (temporary) Rebecca.bridges@darwenvale.com

Year 11 – Darren Adcroft DAdcroft@darwenvale.com



DARWEN VALE HIGH SCHOOL

An Aldridge Community Academy



The official Darwen Vale Uniform Suppliers are below:

- Whittakers School Wear - <https://www.whittakersschoolwear.co.uk/product-category/blackburn/darwen-vale-high-school/>
- Grays School Wear - <https://www.graysschoolwear.co.uk/collections/darwen-vale>
- Snazzys - <https://snazzyschool.wixsite.com/snazzys>

We will be enforcing the uniform and equipment policy when we return on Monday 15th April with zero tolerance of infringements. On the first day back, staff will check the uniform of all students at the gate and in the morning line up.

Any students not in the correct uniform will be asked to go home to correct the infringement where appropriate or be asked to borrow the correct uniform from our uniform store. Government guidance states that where there is a breach of the school uniform policy, either a headteacher – or someone authorised by the headteacher – can ask a student to go home to remedy the uniform breach. This is not an exclusion but an authorised absence unless the student continues to breach the policy to avoid school by being sent home or takes longer than necessary to make the change the students' absence may be counted as unauthorised absence.

We look forward to your support in ensuring all students are treated equally, present themselves fantastically in school and in the community and trust the guidance above makes things much clearer for everyone.

Please find below the relevant links referenced in this letter:

[Parent A-Z](#)
[Uniform and Equipment Policy](#)

Yours sincerely

Mr M Little

Principal