

DARWEN VALE HIGH SCHOOL

An Aldridge Community Academy



08 May 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

As the weather heats up, I would like to take the opportunity to revisit our Summer Uniform expectations. Please note that all changes to uniform for the Summer Term including allowing students to wear socks and to not wear a jumper, are only following official communication from Darwen Vale, such as this letter and will be allowed from **Monday 13th May**.

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. It also helps prepare students for life after school where many will have to dress smartly for or wear a uniform for work.

Our uniform policy is available on our website for further reference, but please see the guidance below:

Skirts – Plain black, stitch down pleat. **Please note an elasticated waist band, box pleat skirt is not acceptable**. Students in **Year 7 & 8** must wear the skirt which features our school badge, and the school badge must be clearly visible at all times. **Waistbands must also be flat at all times (no rolled up skirts)**. **Members of staff will be enforcing this, and your support at home in ensuring that this is not a difficult conversation is appreciated.**



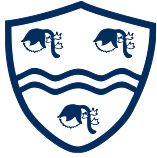
Socks – Students who are wearing a skirt are permitted to wear black, knee length socks. Students are **not permitted to wear ankle socks, or socks with any ribbons, bows, or patterns**. Any students choosing to wear socks must ensure they **always have their waistband flat**.

Tie – Official school tie must be always worn. House Ties for Year 7 & 10, blue KS3 tie for Year 8 & 9 and red KS4 tie for Year 11. Any newly purchased or replacement tie will be the House Tie and can be purchased via Parent Pay,

Blazer and Jumper – Official DVHS blazer must continue be worn at all times, as the weather heats up in Summer Term students may remove their blazer in lessons, at break and lunchtime and do not need to wear their DVHS jumper to school. Understandably, students in Year 10 who may have outgrown their blazer need not purchase a new blazer for the final term, however students must continue to wear their jumper if their blazer is too small. Students are not permitted to arrive to school wearing their shirt only.

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





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Make up, false eyelashes, false nails, nail varnish or jewellery – must not be worn for school. Items of jewellery which are not in line with the policy will be confiscated. If ears are already pierced, only one small, plain gold or silver-coloured stud (no jewels) may be worn in each ear lobe. **No hooped earrings are allowed.** 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.

If you are experiencing any financial difficulty in purchasing school uniform 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 – Zoe Wood (Acting HoY) Zoe.Wood@darwenvale.com

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

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

Year 11 – Darren Adcroft DAdcroft@darwenvale.com

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://snazysschool.wixsite.com/snazzys>

We will be enforcing the Summer uniform notices above from **Monday 13th May** with zero tolerance of infringements.

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, as well as receive a -3 30 minute same day detention. 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