



**Ark Elvin
Academy**

Uniform Policy

Last Updated: September 2022

1. High standards of appearance are expected at all times

Our uniform policy reflects our values and reinforces our academy's culture of high expectations, pride in our appearance and academic achievement. All pupils must dress according to the Uniform Policy. Our academy uniform is important to us. It is one way in which we identify ourselves as an academy community and it promotes a strong and cohesive academy identity, which supports high standards in all areas of academy life. Finally, it promotes harmony between different groups represented in the academy and enhances self-esteem and a sense of personal security.

1.1 We have a compulsory academy uniform for several reasons:

- a Uniforms unite the academy. Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their Ark Elvin Academy uniform they will actively support our ethos and abide by the rules of our community.
- b Uniforms reduce distractions. We are focused on achieving success. When pupils are allowed to wear their own clothing, there is potential to talk about fashions and styles rather than learning.
- c Uniforms help ensure equality in the academy. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to the academy looking the same way. No one has to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- d Uniforms look professional, in that pupils look neat and ready to learn. Our suit like uniform also helps prepare pupils for professional life and enhances their sense of formality.

Final decisions on the suitability of the uniform are always made by staff and we expect parents to support these decisions in full.

1.2 Non-compliance with the Uniform Policy

In the event that pupils are not dressed in the correct uniform or are not wearing the uniform appropriately, a sanction will be issued, in keeping with the academy Behaviour Policy.

If pupils are missing an item of uniform, this may result in them not being able to attend lessons, and/or the loss of their social time until the situation is rectified. There may be occasion in which pupils are sent home to change uniform and return to school. This will not be deemed as an exclusion from school. Where pupils are issued with spare uniform, they must wear it and then return it to Student Services. This is non-negotiable. Where uniform is not returned parents may be charged for it at the school uniform prices, via parent pay.

The academy keeps some articles of uniform available on site for pupils who are missing items. In the event that items can be provided they must be worn by pupils. This includes academy trainers and items of PE kit.

Persistent infringements of the Uniform Policy will be followed up as detailed in the Behaviour Policy.

1.3 Special circumstances

- a. There are very few reasons why a pupil should not be wearing academy uniform. If there are extenuating circumstances, parents and carers should share the reason with their child's Head of Year, either in person or by letter. The academy will always be considerate and discrete in trying to establish why a pupil is not wearing the correct uniform. Pupils will not be made to feel uncomfortable, nor discriminated against, because their parents/carers are unable to provide them with the required

items of the academy uniform. In line with our ethos, we encourage discussion with the academy at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties.

- b. There will be occasions when the academy decides that the academy uniform is not appropriate, for instance when taking part in a physical activity day, wearing different clothes due to a fund-raising event or due to extreme weather. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of the revised dress code on these days.

1.4 Uniform details

The school uniform consists of the following items. The school tie and all items with the school logo must be purchased from Ace Clothing, 5a Courtenay Road, East Lane Business Park, East Lane Wembley, HA9 7ND.

All other items can be purchased elsewhere as long as they are identical in colour and specification as the ones on sale at Ace Clothing. Please take care when purchasing items away from ACE Clothing.

Pupils not in the correct uniform will not be able to attend lesson until the uniform has been corrected by staff and/or parents.

Uniform

- Black blazer with silver trim and academy logo
- Purple fine knit v-neck jumper: grey stripe and logo
- School Tie
- White shirt
- Black trousers or skirt
- Black socks or tights
- Black shoes (no trainers or high heels)



PE Uniform

- White polo shirt with academy logo
- Grey jumper with academy logo
- Black shorts

- Thick black leggings
- Plain grey tracksuit bottoms
- Trainers/plimsolls (no fashion shoes/pumps)



School Bag

- Bookbag/Rucksack with academy logo
- PE drawstring bag with academy logo



Where possible, items should be purchased from the school uniform shop. If an equivalent item can be purchased from another shop then that is acceptable. However any items not purchased from the school shop may be deemed not in line with the above uniform requirements. Therefore it is essential that parents check items carefully prior to purchasing. Parents will be contacted to change these items.

Outdoor clothing

- a) Pupils should bring appropriate outdoor clothing during cold or wet weather. Outdoor clothing should be worn on top of the academy blazer, not underneath or as an alternative to the blazer.
- b) Pupils should bring an umbrella during wet weather.

1.5 Footwear

Pupils must wear closed-toe, hard-soled, all black, plain shoes with a flat sole. Footwear with flashing lights are not appropriate for school. Boots are not allowed. Where pupils arrive at school in incorrect footwear, they will be given a pair of school shoes to wear. The wearing of these shoes is a non-negotiable.

Acceptable	Unacceptable
	

1.6 Hats, headscarves or headwear

Pupils are not allowed to wear hats, headscarves or any other head covering inside the academy building unless it is due to religious, cultural or medical reasons. Any head covering for religious or cultural values or hair accessories that are worn such as slides, ribbons, bobbles or bands should be simple and plain. Pupils are allowed to cover their head for religious or cultural reasons in academy colours only (black/purple/white/yellow) and without decoration or embellishment.

1.7 Hairstyles

Rationale: The academy recognises and is proud to celebrate the diverse community it serves. The academy also recognises that different cultures prescribe different levels of importance to hairstyles and hair colouring. The academy's approach to hairstyles is designed to recognise this, whilst ensuring that there are clear boundaries, and a professional ethos in the academy.

- a) Pupils' hair should be neatly groomed and professional at all times for smartness, appearance and health and safety. Hairstyles should be such that pupils' faces are not obscured or covered, so the teachers can judge their engagement with learning and their participation in discussions and practical activities. In practice, no hairstyle should hide a student's face.

- b) Pupils may not wear designs or words cut into their hair or eyebrows. Pupils may not have lines shaved into their hair

1.8 Fingernail polish or make-up

Pupils are not allowed to wear fingernail polish or false nails. Make-up is not allowed.

Any make-up or nail varnish that is worn will be required to be removed immediately and the Pupils will be issued with a correction

1.9 Jewellery/Accessories

Pupils may not wear any jewellery except for one watch (no sound effects, games or smart watches). Pupils are allowed to wear plain studded earrings. This should not be bigger than the lobe.

The academy will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.

Accessories that are seen to be contravening these rules will be confiscated.

1.10 Body piercing and tattoos

Body piercing is prohibited, with the exception of single, standard stud nose piercing or studded piercings on the ear lobe. No other forms of body piercing will be allowed for any pupil including hooped earrings. Pupils are not allowed to have tattoos of any kind on their body.

1.11 Naming clothing and property

Please ensure all clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. The academy cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage to pupils' property and valuables.

1.12 Facial Hair

Where pupils have facial hair, it must be neatly groomed, and as with hairstyles, not have designs or logos shaved into it.

1.13 Lost property

All mislaid items are placed at Student Services. We endeavour to return all named property.