



Rye Hills
Academy

Uniform Policy

Review date: September 2026
Date of next review: September 2028



North East
Learning Trust

Review history

Review Date	Reviewer	Approved by	Date approved	Implementation
October 2023	M Carney	Head of School	October 2023	October 2023
September 2025	M Carney	Head of School	September 2025	September 2025
September 2026	M Carney	Head of School	September 2026	September 2026

Recent revisions

Issue No.	Date	Revisions made
2	October 2023	Updated sections on footwear and jewellery
3	December 2024	Updated to include reference to religious head coverings

1. Introduction

Rye Hills Academy is part of the North East Learning Trust and the uniform policy supports the high standards of the Trust and the Academy. At Rye Hills Academy we believe that a school uniform plays an important role in creating a focused and respectful learning environment. Our uniform policy is designed to promote equality, reduce distractions, and instill a sense of pride and belonging among students. By wearing the correct uniform, students represent not only themselves but also the values and community of our school. This policy outlines the expectations for student dress and appearance, ensuring consistency and clarity for all members of the school community.

2. Aims

We believe that a clearly defined Academy uniform is important because it:

- **Promotes Equality**

To create a sense of fairness and reduce peer pressure by minimising visible economic and social differences among students.

- **Encourages a Sense of Belonging**

To help students feel part of the school community and take pride in representing their school.

- **Supports a Focused Learning Environment**

To reduce distractions and support a professional atmosphere that is conducive to learning and achievement.

- **Enhances Safety and Security**

To ensure students are easily identifiable as members of the school, both on-site and during off-site activities, improving overall safety.

- **Fosters Discipline and Responsibility**

To encourage students to take responsibility for their appearance and to understand the importance of following guidelines and expectations.

- **Prepares Students for the Future**

To help students develop habits of personal presentation that are important in many workplaces and formal environments.

3. School Uniform

The school uniform requirements are outlined in the table below, along with details regarding which items are optional and which need to be branded.

General Uniform

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
Blazer	Required	Branded navy blazer with the school badge Note: Only available from the uniform supplier.
Shirt	Required	White collared shirt with top button. This must be smartly tucked in. Note: Shirts can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Academy Tie	Required	Branded Rye Hills Academy tie. Supplied to Year 7 students in the first instance. Replacement ties purchased through the uniform supplier.
Jumper	Optional	Navy V neck jumper. Note: Only available from the uniform supplier. No other alternatives are permitted.

Trousers	Required	Plain grey formal straight cut school trousers – not leggings, jeans or stretch style. The bottoms of the trouser must be at least 7.5 inches/18 cm wide at the bottom. Note: Trousers purchased elsewhere MUST be the same style and fit as those provided by the uniform supplier.
Skirt	Required	Plain grey pleated or straight pencil skirt. Not tight fitting or stretch material and must be no more than one inch above the knee. Note: Skirts purchased from elsewhere MUST be the same as available from the uniform supplier.
Socks/Tights	Required	Socks must be black. Plain grey opaque tights must be worn with skirts. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Shoes	Required	Plain black, formal, leather or leather look shoes which can be polished. No trainers, plimsolls or boots. Note: Shoes can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Academy House Badges	Required	Note: House badges to be worn on the lapel of the blazer. Supplied by school.

Outerwear

ITEM	INFORMATION
Outside Coats	Outside coats must be removed when entering the school building. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Caps	Caps are not to be worn on academy premises.

Woollen Hats	May be worn between the autumn and spring half terms but must be removed when entering the school building.
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PE Kit

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
PE polo shirt with Rye Hills logo	Required	Branded and only available from the uniform supplier.
Black shorts (plain)	Required	Available from the uniform supplier. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Black tracksuit bottoms or leggings (plain)	Optional	Available from the uniform supplier. Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
$\frac{3}{4}$ zip top with Rye Hills logo	Optional	Available from the uniform supplier.
Black sports socks	Required	Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.
Black outdoor waterproof jacket or coat	Optional	Note: Can be purchased from any high-street retailer.

PE Footwear

ITEM	REQUIRED/OPTIONAL	INFORMATION
Trainers	Required	Note: Trainers with non-marking soles are to be worn in the sports hall.
Studded Boots and shinpads	Required	Note: Students must wear studded boots when participating in certain activities on the grass.
Moulded boots and Astro trainers	Optional	Note: Are allowed on the 3G sports pitch. However, metal studs, blades and flat sole trainers are not accepted.
Plimsolls, Converse, or canvas type shoes	Not permitted	Note: Not suitable footwear for PE and should not be worn.

General Appearance

Hair	Hair should be a natural colour (one colour only). The Academy reserves the right to decide that the cut and colour of a student's hair is inappropriate. Tramlines, Mohicans, extreme short sides, longer on top are examples of styles that are deemed inappropriate. Hair bands should be thin and not overly decorated e.g., no larger flowers.
Religious Head Coverings	Students may wear religious head coverings or garments (e.g. hijabs, turbans, kippahs) as part of their uniform, provided they are plain black or navy.
Jewellery	Students are allowed to wear one small, plain stud in each earlobe. No other jewellery (this includes necklaces, bracelets and/or rings) or visible body piercings are permitted. Clear plastic jewellery is not allowed in non-permitted piercings and students will not be allowed to cover piercings with plasters. Parents must ensure that if a child is to have any additional piercings this must take place at the start of the six weeks' holiday and jewellery removed on the first day of the Autumn term.
Make-Up	Students can wear discreet, natural make-up. The Academy reserves the right to decide whether the amount of make-up a student is applying is inappropriate. Students are not permitted to wear false, gel or acrylic nails and/or coloured nail varnish. For health and safety reasons nails need to be a sensible length. False eyelashes are not permitted. Fake tan, like make-up, needs to be discreet.
Tattoos	Tattoos, including Henna, which are visible are not permitted. It is illegal to have a tattoo below the age of 18.
Clothing	Large fashion belts are not part of the Academy uniform. Small, plain black belts may be worn. Hoods must not be worn inside the Academy.
Equipment	All students are expected to come to the Academy with: • a bag large enough to carry an A4 file (backpacks are recommended) • a pencil case containing pen, pencil, ruler, and a rubber

	Tutors and Year Managers will carry out equipment checks regularly. Where a student repeatedly fails to bring the correct equipment Year Managers will contact home and then if required sanctions will be applied.
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The Academy reserves the right to make the final decision on what is acceptable and what is not acceptable.

If you have any good quality uniform that your child no longer needs, including PE kit, please drop it off at the main reception. It will then be re-distributed to students when required via Student Services.

As part of the Home School Agreement our students and parents/guardians agree to conform to the uniform requirements of the school. Therefore, if parents/guardians or students are in doubt about whether or not a particular article of clothing is suitable or before making any decisions about altering hair colour or style, we ask that they contact their child's Year Manager prior to any change.

Dissemination of the Policy

This policy is available on the school website, on request to parents/guardians, the Local Authority and Ofsted through the Executive Principal. A copy will be stored on staff files.

Other policies that have relevance are:

- Admissions and Appeals
- Equality Policy
- Health and Safety
- Complaints Policy
- Behaviour Policy

Ordering the Academy Uniform

Uniform can be ordered here www.emblematic.co.uk/schools/rha/