



Ark John Archer Primary Academy

SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

2023 / 2024



Ark John Archer Primary Academy Uniform Policy

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

We ask parents and carers to support all decisions by school staff regarding whether or not clothing is appropriate or inappropriate for school.

Smartness and high standards of appearance are expected at all times.

We have a required school uniform for several reasons:

- Uniforms unite the school. Pupils make a commitment that when they put on their Ark John Archer uniform, they will be an ambassador of our community.
- Uniforms reduce distractions. We are focused on achieving success. When pupils are allowed to wear their own clothing, there is the potential to talk about fashions and styles rather than learning.
- Uniforms make us all equal. Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the pupils come to school looking the same way. No one has to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- Uniforms look professional. Pupils look smart, sharp and ready to learn.

1. Equality and equal opportunities:

- 1.1 All children have equal access to wearing the academy uniform regardless of their culture, race, religion, gender, disability or ability. Our uniform is gender neutral. We ensure that the set uniform respects other policies such as equality, race relations, sex discrimination and allows for individual sets of circumstances for all groups and individuals. Ark John Archer Primary Academy is committed to creating a positive climate that will enable everyone to work free from discrimination and harassment in order to achieve their full potential. Consideration has been given to how the uniform can be adapted for those who have a disability or who wish to express a cultural,

religious or racial identity within the framework of an academy whilst fostering cohesion, safety and a sense of community.

- 1.2 We will do all we can to ensure that this policy does not discriminate, directly or indirectly. We shall do this through regular monitoring and evaluation of our policies. On review, we shall assess and consult relevant stakeholders on the likely impact of our policies on the promotion of all aspects of equality, as laid down in the Equality Act (2010). This will include, but not necessarily be limited to: race; gender; sexual orientation; disability; ethnicity; religion; cultural beliefs and pregnancy/maternity. We will use an appropriate Equality Impact Assessment to monitor the impact of all our policies and the policy may be amended as a result of this assessment.

2. Expectations:

- 2.1 We have taken care to ensure that our uniform is affordable and to minimise the number of items that need to be purchased from a particular supplier. Items marked as branded must be purchased from our supplier and parents should take care when buying other items to ensure that they meet our expectations.
- 2.2 Pupils are expected to be wearing full school uniform on all days unless otherwise communicated by the school. On PE days and swimming days, pupils are expected to be wearing their full PE kit.

3. Non-compliance and Exceptions:

- 3.1 Parents and carers of pupils who do not wear their full uniform correctly will be contacted and will be asked to bring the correct uniform into school. If this is not possible your child will be expected to wear the correct uniform the following day.
- 3.2 There may be good reasons why a child is not wearing school uniform. In this case, parents and carers should share the reasons with the Principal either in person or by letter. The school 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 are unable to provide them with the required items of school uniform. In line with our culture of honest conversation with parents and carers, we encourage discussion with the school at the earliest opportunity if there are any difficulties.
- 3.3 There will be occasions when the school decides that school uniform is not appropriate, e.g. when taking part in a physical activity day or wearing different clothes as a part of a fund-raising event. Parents and carers will be notified in advance of what is the revised dress code on these days.

4. The Ark John Archer Uniform:

4.1 School uniform items	Branded
V-neck jumper / cardigan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy with John Archer logo 	✓
White buttoned shirt or blouse <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Short or long-sleeved 	✗
Gold School Tie <ul style="list-style-type: none"> String fasten <i>or</i> clip fasten <i>or</i> traditional fasten 	School colour
Charcoal skirt <i>or</i> trousers <i>or</i> shorts	✗
Grey Blazer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Optional in Years 3 and 4 Compulsory in Years 5 and 6 	✓
Charcoal/grey pinafore	✗
White, grey or black socks <i>or</i> tights	✗
Hair accessories (optional) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy <i>or</i> grey 	✗
Hijab (optional) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy 	Optional
Book bag <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy 	Optional

PE uniform items: Indoor and Outdoor	Branded
White t-shirt or polo shirt	Optional
Sports crewneck sweatshirt <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy 	Optional
Sports shorts <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy <i>or</i> black 	✗
Sports joggers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> AJA burgundy <i>or</i> black 	✗
Trainers / plimsolls <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Black Velcro fastening for EYFS and KS1 Velcro or lace up for KS2 	✗

4.2 Outdoor Clothing

Children should bring a coat to school each day, apart from during the hotter weather. Any outdoor clothing should be worn on top of the academy uniform, not underneath or as an alternative. Coats, hats, scarves, and gloves should be worn when weather appropriate. Smart, showerproof, jacket-style coats will be available from School Uniform Direct over the academic year. Hats and scarves will also be available in the school colours.

4.3 Bags & Belongings

A bookbag with the Ark John Archer logo is recommended for carrying books, home learning, letters and other materials to/from school. A PE bag with John Archer logo is also available for carrying PE kit to/from school.

4.4 Footwear

- Pupils must wear closed-toed, hard-soled, **all black** plain shoes with a flat sole.
- Footwear with flashing lights or wheels are not appropriate for school.
- Boots are not allowed, unless during an extremely cold period where they can be worn to/from school. Children will be asked to change once in school.
- **All black** or **all white** closed-toed sandals may be worn as part of the summer uniform only.
- Open-toed sandals should not be worn, even in the Summer Term.



4.5 Hats, Headscarves or Headwear

Ark John Archer is a diverse community. We recognise that different cultures prescribe different levels of importance to hairstyles and headwear. The academy's approach is designed to recognise this, whilst ensuring that there are clear boundaries, and a professional ethos in the academy. Pupils are allowed to wear hats, headscarves, or any other head covering inside the school building if it is for religious or cultural reasons. Any head covering worn for religious or cultural values or any hair accessories that are worn should be simple and in school colours (Ark John Archer burgundy or grey). A school cap / knitted hat with John Archer logo will be available for both summer and winter outdoor wear.

4.6 Hairstyles

Pupils' hair should always be groomed and neat for appearance. If your child has long hair then please ensure that it is tied back, especially on PE days, for health and safety purposes.

Pupils may not wear designs or words cut into their hair or eyebrows. Pupils may not have lines shaved into their hair or permanent/temporary coloured hair. If pupils are unsure whether a hairstyle meets the academy policy they should check in advance with the school.

4.7 Fingernail Polish or Make-Up

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

4.8 Jewellery/Accessories

Pupils may wear a watch to school; we encourage a simple watch that has no sound effects or games. If your child has pierced ears then please ensure they wear stud earrings, worn in the lower ear lobe. Parents are strongly encouraged to remove earrings on swimming days. *Please note that the school will be unable to take any responsibility for any watches or jewellery that are lost.*

4.9 Body Piercing & Tattoos

Body piercing is prohibited, with the exception of single, standard ear piercing. No other forms of body piercing will be allowed for any pupil. We discourage transfer tattoos of any kind on their body.

5. Naming Clothing & Property

VERY IMPORTANT – Please ensure ***all*** clothing and property is clearly marked so that lost articles may be easily traced and returned. Please be reminded that the majority of uniform items look the same and can often not be traced to the owner without a name tag. *The school cannot accept responsibility for loss or damage of pupils' property and valuables.*

6. Lost Property

All mislaid items are placed in the school lost property. Please ask the school office if you wish to look for a specific item. We endeavour to return all named property. All unclaimed lost property is disposed of at the end of term, given to a local children's charity or washed and used for replacement uniform within school.

7. Second-hand Uniform

We appreciate the value of supporting one another in adhering to this policy and ensuring pupils are equipped with the resources they need to attend and thrive as a part of the school community. If you have any unwanted items of uniform, please donate these to the school office to be used again. We will always endeavour to pass these items on to someone who may need them, or alternatively, to keep them at school as spare uniform for pupils.

Please ask at the school office if you would like to up the opportunity to acquire any second-hand items of uniform. We will endeavour to provide these at the time of enquiring, or to source items where possible.

8. Purchasing School Uniform

All of our school uniform items can be ordered online or in store at **School Uniform Direct:**
<https://www.schooluniformdirect.co.uk/schools/217/ark-john-archer-primary-school>

Items marked as branded must be purchased from the uniform supplier. All uniform items that are not compulsory to be branded can be purchased on the high street from a number of different retailers.

Policy to be reviewed: September 2024

Together As One