



# THE BRAMBLE ACADEMY

## **Uniform Policy**

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## 1. Aims of the Policy

The Bramble Academy is committed to the principle that all pupils should wear formal Academy uniform. There are important reasons for this:

- Uniform creates a sense of equality amongst all pupils. Pupils' starting point becomes who they are and not what they are wearing.
- Uniform creates a common identity, a sense of belonging and thus pride in the Academy.
- Uniform sets the tone and attitude for serious learning and achievement.
- Wearing uniform prepares pupils for the dress requirements of the world of work, a valuable lesson in the workplace and for life in general.
- Uniform makes The Bramble Academy pupils easily identifiable in the local community and on Academy trips.

## 2. Principles of the Uniform

- The uniform must be distinguishable from that of other schools or academies.
- The uniform should be attractive and help instil pride in pupils.
- The uniform should be affordable and easily available for purchase.
- The uniform must be manageable by staff. We expect the uniform to be worn smartly and consistently in keeping with the Uniform Policy at all times. The uniform must enable staff to enforce this.
- Consequently, our uniform must have the minimum number of optional or variable features.

## 3. Our Academy Uniform

We ask that all children wear the uniform and we encourage them to maintain a good standard of clean and tidy dress in school.

Our school colours are red, black and white, complimented by the new logo for The Bramble Academy. The following items are acceptable:

- Red polo t-shirt for children in Nursery up to and including Year 4
- White blouse/shirt for children in Year 5 and 6
- Red and black striped tie for children in Year 5 and 6
- Black jumper / sweatshirt / cardigan with/without school logo
- Black or grey skirt / pinafore / trousers / tailored shorts
- Black sensible leather-type sturdy shoes or boots.
- Red and white checked dress (optional)
- Grey, black, red or white plain socks or tights

(It is very important that children have a change of clothes and footwear for physical activities. It is school policy, in line with Health and Safety recommendations, not to allow jewellery (this includes ear-rings) to be worn during physical education lessons).

- White t shirt
- Black shorts
- Plimsolls / Trainers
- For swimming girls should wear a one piece swimming costume and boys should wear swimming trunks – N.B. swimming shorts are not welcomed at the swimming baths for health and safety reasons. Swimming hats must be worn over long hair. A towel will be needed from home.

Items or accessories that are deemed unacceptable and not part of the Bramble uniform:

- Baseball caps/hats inside the school building
- Hoodies
- Trainers
- Branded/logo items of clothing
- Leggings/jeggings/denim
- Soft footwear / trainers.

#### **4. Uniform and Religious Affiliation**

The Academy will apply the principle that, in order to maintain the features of consistency and enforceability of uniform rules, permitted variations will be kept to an essential minimum.

Legally, there are two key principles regarding the exhibition of religious affinity in school uniform:

- Ultimately, the Headteacher and the Governors' decision is final.
- On the grounds of being reasonable, it is recommended that schools apply the principle of 'obligation', i.e. permitting those garments or accessories which children are obligated to wear as part of their religious practice.

#### **5. Accessories and Personal Appearance**

Some young people may on occasions try to express their personality through adapting or adding to their school uniform. Neither of these actions will be permitted at The Bramble Academy. In particular:

- Hairstyles. Extremes of hair style such as unnatural bright colourings and shaved patterns (as decided by the school) are not permitted.
- Excessive make up is not permitted.
- Earrings: two small spherical or clear plain stud/disc only. To be worn on the lower lobe of each ear. No ear stretchers allowed.

Jewellery: No jewellery other than plain earrings (see above) and one plain ring to be worn. No facial or body piercings are permitted. For Health and Safety reasons, no other jewellery worn in body piercings is permitted (e.g. nose studs, tongue studs, inner ear piercings, eyebrow studs or other body jewellery, even when worn under clothing).

- Tattoos, including henna tattoos, are not permitted. Where parents give their children permission to have piercings and temporary tattoos during holiday periods, the healing process for piercings must have ended and all jewellery removed by the time term recommences and all visible signs of tattoos must have disappeared.

Where parents give their children permission to have piercings and temporary tattoos during holiday periods, the healing process for piercings must have ended and all jewellery removed by the time term recommences and all visible signs of tattoos must have disappeared. Pupils will not be permitted to attend the Academy with a plaster over a piercing. Claiming that the piercing has not healed will not be regarded as an acceptable excuse for wearing the jewellery.

#### **6. Executive Principals Judgements and Actions**

There will always be the prospect of challenges to school uniform from young people (and possibly parents) seeking to challenge the rules. In such circumstances, Governors delegate responsibility to the Executive Principal to make judgements about the acceptability or otherwise of particular items. The Executive Principal's decision will be final.