

11<sup>th</sup> March 2019

Dear Parent/Carers,

For some time now academy leaders have been challenging the standard of uniform in the academy which is not being worn appropriately by a significant minority of students. The current uniform was designed and selected by students of TQEA and the policy agreed upon by parents.

The uniform policy is clear and readily available in the student planner and on the academy website. Leaflets signposting parents to the uniform supplier are available in the reception area of the academy and a direct link to their online site is also on the bottom of our website uniform page.

Having challenged and appealed to your youngsters (namely girls as the lowering standard of presentation is more prevalent in the girls than the boys, who manage to present themselves well and in keeping with the policy) we are at a stage of having to consider the more expensive option of narrowing our policy to pre-ordered logoed skirts and trousers. This will bring a financial burden upon families which we really do not wish to impose so we are asking for your support so that this step does not become necessary.

Appropriate length skirts in non-body-con fabrics and loose trousers of the appropriate length are readily available in major super-markets and the majority of parents are finding and purchasing them. It is proven that they are accessible. Whilst we acknowledge that some of your children are persuading that high fashion is important, we need to give prior warning that if the uniform does not improve by Summer half term we will put in place the stipulation for logoed uniform available from our uniform provider.

Please help us to avoid this action by supporting your academy and insisting on your children wearing the uniform that they signed up to upon transition to the academy.

To assist, I attach the uniform policy. Between now and the review in the summer term we will expect those who come to academy in the wrong foot-wear to wear the shoes we lend them until the issue is sorted. If your child turns up in the wrong skirt or trousers parents will be expected to bring an appropriate change of clothes to academy for their child, or the child to co-operate with the loan of these items if we have them available in your child's size. If students do not adhere to uniform and it cannot be resolved by the fore-mentioned interventions, they will be placed in supervised learning until the issue is resolved.

I sincerely hope, that as a wider community, we can help our youngsters to recognise the worth of a uniform worn appropriately and well, and that we will have established a united whole academy approach together with our parents moving forwards into the academic year 2019-20.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Ressel  
Assistant Principal

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## Uniform & Equipment

The TQEA uniform consists of smart trousers (or skirt), shirt, tie and blazer, and encourages students to take great pride in their appearance. Students are expected to adhere to our uniform policy at all times, which consists of the following items:

### Uniform – All Students

- School Blazer (To be worn at all times unless directed by a member of staff. No item worn between shirt and blazer).
- School tie. Worn at all times appropriately attached to the top button of the shirt.
- Plain white long sleeve shirt (tucked in and fully buttoned at all times).
- Black, grey or white full ankle socks (not trainer/sports sock style), or black tights (not footless and no leggings).
- Plain all black sturdy shoes (No logo). No plimsolls, trainers, air bubbles, canvas or coloured trim or soles. Shoes should be appropriate for all weathers. Black laces only.
- Plain, full length (no gap between trouser and socks) black trousers. (No jeans, jeggings, corduroy, combat, chinos, Lycra, denim trousers, leggings or tracksuit bottoms). Girls may choose instead plain, black skirt that is smart and professional and loose fitting (no stretch material, Lycra or body-con styles). Inappropriate skirt lengths will be challenged and will need to be addressed immediately.
- A waterproof coat for winter use is strongly recommended.

### PE Kit

- Shorts with TQEA logo. Girls may choose TQEA logo skirt.
- Navy blue sports polo with TQEA logo (fitted option for girls if desired).
- Plain navy blue football socks.
- Plain navy blue tracksuit bottoms with no logos.
- Fleece lined outdoor ¼ zip TQEA top.
- Trainers (Not fashion or canvas).

**Recommended additional layers for outside PE lessons** (these items are all non TQEA branded and can be purchased at a wide range of local shops/supermarkets).

- Base layers (long sleeved) plain navy blue or black tops to go underneath the PE t-shirt
- Black, or navy leggings, or running leggings
- Gloves for sports not including throwing and catching (but still bring them for warm ups, coaching time etc.)
- Plain woolly hats (with no dangling strings or adornments)
- Waterproof rain coats either navy blue, black or plain dark colours (not fashion coats which are not waterproof)

## Hair

Hair should be one natural colour with no patterns or shapes cut into it. No shaved / No1 heads either all over or part. We find that hair colours / cuts that do not conform to our requirements distract from learning.

## General

- **No** excessively wide or coloured belts
- **Undergarments** should be an appropriate colour to protect modesty e.g. neutral or white vests, bras etc.
- **No** facial / cartilage / body piercing to be worn for school. (Refer to Uniform Policy – have piercings of this nature done in Summer holiday to allow for healing). **One** single pair of stud earrings / **one discreet** ring / **one small discreet** necklace, bracelet and watch. All jewellery must be removed for PE lessons.
- Chewing gum, canned or energy drinks are not allowed in school.
- Boys to be clean shaven at all times.
- No nail varnish or excessive and impractical length nails or acrylics.
- Discrete small amount of make up in years 9-11 only.
- No headwear, hats or caps to be worn on school site.

## **The Queen Elizabeth Academy Summer Uniform**

If the weather gets warmer towards the end of Summer Term, we like to take the opportunity to move to our optional summer uniform. Parents and students will be notified when this is permitted and a letter/message will be sent home.

The summer uniform will consist of an optional short sleeved shirt for all students. The shirt must have a full standard school shirt collar and students will still be required to wear their ties. Summer uniform is introduced each year at the discretion of the Principal, long sleeved shirts should be worn by students at all other times, including the first day back in September.

Our uniform policy is very clear and states that students should have their blazers with them at all times. However, when it is hot, teachers will inform students that their blazers may be removed in the classroom. At break and lunch, outside the building, students are not required to wear their blazer, but on return to the building it should be worn.

With regards to shoes, please remember that all shoes must be completely black leather, with no obvious logos, material parts, canvas or air bubbles.

**All Parents/Carers should ensure the school uniform policy is followed fully by their child.**

Uniform can be purchased on line by visiting Your School Wear via:  
<http://www.yourschoolwear.co.uk/queen-elizabeth-academy-196-c.asp>

Ties can be purchased at school, please contact Reception for costs and availability.

