

Academy Uniform, Jewellery and Equipment Guidance

Introduction

We are proud of our students and aim to ensure this is reflected in how they present themselves every day. We want students to dress in a professional style that represents their ambitions, allows them to feel smart and be proud to represent Caister Academy Community.

Our uniform policy is intended to provide clear, consistent guidance for parents and students. Essential items from an approved supplier are kept to a minimum, but are in place for some garments to ensure a consistent standard is straightforward to follow. Modifications and adjustments to this guidance can be considered on an individual basis.

Through a process of regular review, we aim to ensure that our approved supplier delivers: value for money, quality, comfort and durability, and a sensible range of size and fit options. In addition, our approved supplier is asked to provide online and in person purchasing opportunities.

Additional financial support is available to support families with the cost of uniform. This is through access to a school held hardship fund and a second-hand uniform service.

Where changes to academy uniform are made, these will be implemented gradually, to minimise unnecessary wastage and additional costs for parents.

All uniform decisions are made with reference to the Department for Education's non-statutory guidance on [school uniforms](#) and statutory guidance on [cost of school uniforms](#).

Students may wear the uniform of the gender that they identify with, without having to make a declaration about their gender.

Academy uniform list

Everyday wear

Essential items:

- Grey suit jacket with Caister Academy logo⁽¹⁾
- Grey suit trousers in classic or contemporary fit, grey tailored shorts, or grey checked skirt⁽¹⁾
- Plain white buttoned shirt, or plain white buttoned blouse with collar
- Caister Academy tie⁽¹⁾
- Plain black or grey socks; or plain black, grey or natural coloured tights
- Plain black polishable shoes
- Warm waterproof coat for inclement weather

Optional items:

- Black V-neck jumper. Our preferred, school approved jumper is the black knitted jumper available from screens and other retailers⁽¹⁾.
- Plain black belt with a small buckle



Mollie wears:

Grey girls suit jacket, grey checked skirt.

Frankii wears:

Grey boys suit jacket and grey boys contemporary trousers.

Physical education and dance wear

Essential items:

- Blue crew neck t-shirt with Caister Academy logo⁽¹⁾
- Blue shorts⁽¹⁾
- Sports socks
- Trainers
- Football boots (autumn and spring for boys, summer for girls)

Optional items:

- Black base layer
- Blue skort⁽²⁾
- Blue leggings with Caister Academy logo⁽²⁾
- Blue tracksuit bottoms with Caister Academy logo^{(1) (2)}
- Blue quarter zip jacket. Our preferred, school approved PE jacket is the navy/sky jacket with Caister Academy logo⁽¹⁾. If other quarter zip jackets are worn, they must be in a similar style, all navy and have no additional branding or detailing. No hoodies or sweatshirts will be acceptable.
- Caister blue striped football socks⁽¹⁾
- Blue rugby shirt with Caister Academy logo⁽¹⁾
- Blue rugby shorts⁽¹⁾
- Jazz shoes (as an optional alternative to bare feet in performing arts)
- Guidance on gumshields and shinpads will be provided when students join the school



*Mollie wears:
Blue crew neck t-shirt, blue quarter zip jacket and blue skort.*

Mason wears:



*Mollie wears:
Blue crew neck t-shirt and blue skort*

*Mason wears:
Blue crew neck t-shirt, blue shorts*

Wearing the uniform with pride

- School uniform should be worn correctly at all times, including on the way to and from school.
- Ties should be worn to fall between the top button of the blazer and the waist.
- Skirts should be worn at an appropriate length (close to or just above the knee) and should not be 'rolled up' at the waist. We allow a degree of flexibility and understand that skirt lengths may vary depending on the height of the student. Repeated failure to wear the skirt at an appropriate length may result in a student being directed to wear trousers.
- Socks should be below the knee, with no logos or motifs.
- The following footwear is not acceptable: Sandals, boots, heels, wedges, trainers/trainer type shoe or shoes with logos/stripes, or plimsolls⁽³⁾.



- Non-school jumpers and hoodies are not permitted in school.
- Students may remove their blazers when necessary in lessons, or when outside at social times.
- In cases of hot weather, the Vice Principal for Inclusion will advise of summer uniform, whereby students will not be required to wear blazers during any part of the day.
- All students are expected to get changed for physical education and dance, even if they cannot participate fully in the practical aspects, for example through illness or injury. They will be asked to take on an appropriate role by the member of staff, for example official, coach, or helper⁽³⁾.
- Temporary tattoos including pen markings are not usually permitted.

Uniform Support

Support for purchasing uniform:

- Caister Academy holds a uniform hardship fund that may be accessed by families in need of financial support to purchase appropriate uniform at any time. To request this support, please visit our website www.caisteracademy.org.uk and complete a hardship request form, alternatively scan the QR code or call 01493 720542.



Jewellery, Makeup, Nails and Hair

- Students may wear up to one pair of small simple ear studs (one per ear lobe) and a simple, non-smart watch. Other jewellery – for example, bracelets, rings and necklaces, piercing retainers, and smart watches – are not permitted.
- Students may wear a small amount of discreet makeup in natural colours. The academy may ask students to remove any makeup staff consider inappropriate.
- Students are not permitted to wear nail varnish, false nails, or false eyelashes.
- Hair should be kept neat and tidy, and any hair accessories should be small and plain, unless associated with a particular religion or culture. Dyed hair must be of a natural colour. The following are not usually permitted; shaved emblems or lines; unnatural colour dyes; large differences in length.

If you are unsure whether a particular item or hairstyle is acceptable, please contact the academy for guidance before any purchase or treatment.

Non-permitted items will be confiscated and taken to reception. Confiscated items can be collected from the reception by a parent at any time between 15:00 and 16:00. The academy cannot accept liability for confiscated items.

Please note

To ensure consistency for all students and maintain expectations, students who are unable to meet the academy uniform expectations will be educated in the reflection room. Students will return to normal lessons as soon as the corresponding issue is rectified.

Purchasing uniform

⁽¹⁾It is recommended that these items are purchased from our approved supplier, [Screens](#). If another supplier is used, the colour and style of items should exactly match those of our approved supplier.

⁽²⁾These items can be used to replace the blue shorts but as additional items they must be purchased from our approved supplier, no alternatives are allowed.

⁽³⁾Reasonable adjustment will be made with supporting medical evidence.

Items may be;

- Purchased in person at Screens, located at 3-4 Rant Score, Lowestoft, NR32 1TY.
- Ordered [online](#). There is an option of direct delivery, or a free click and collect service to the school that drops off on the first Monday of each month and the Wednesday of GCSE results week.
- Tried on, prior to ordering online;
 - through a pop-up shop at Caister Academy on Year 6 Transition Evening, for Year 6 students
 - in school, from the selection of sample items held in the reception office, from 3pm to 4pm on Mondays, for Year 7 to Senior Year students.

If you are unsure whether a particular item of uniform is acceptable, please contact the school before purchasing.

Equipment

Students will need to bring the following equipment to school and this will be checked by form tutors on a daily basis:

- School bag
- Pencil case, containing:
 - Black, purple and red pens
 - Pencil(s)
 - Eraser
 - Pencil sharpener
 - 15cm ruler
 - Protractor
 - Pair of compasses
 - Glue
 - Highlighter
- Hush Pouch – Mobile Phone
- Water bottle
- Reading book following first library visit in Autumn term

- Scientific calculator (Casio FX-83GTX, FX-85GTX and FX-83GTCW recommended)
- Cooking ingredients and two litre Tupperware container with a lid, for all practical catering lessons. (Further guidance to be provided at the beginning of catering courses)
- Physical education and dance kit, as specified in the above list, for all physical education and dance lessons, and appropriate after school electives.
- Please note, **we do not expect your child to bring scissors to school. Scissors will be provided by the academy.**