

2nd October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Firstly, as we enter into October we would like to commend our students for the way in which they continue to engage in their learning and all of the safety procedures we have in place to ensure the safest running of the Academy possible.

Overall, since the Academy reopened fully students across our Academy are dressing in line with uniform expectations and we are pleased that the vast majority of our students arrive at the Academy well-presented, on time, and prepared for learning. We appreciate that we are all working together through difficult times and this will continue to be the case in all aspects of Academy life.

You will be aware that to enable the delivery of Physical Education lessons we are allowing students to wear their PE kit throughout the Academy day on days when PE is on their timetable. In the information sent out earlier this academic year from Mr Beesley it stated that 'hoodies' are not appropriate as PE kit and the black quarter zip PE top (available from Design Box) should be worn. As an alternative, black tracksuit tops or black sweatshirts could be worn. Reminders have been given over recent days to students about the correct Academy Uniform and PE Kit, with particular reference to 'hoodies'.

We have made the decision that students will continue to be allowed to wear PE kit to the Academy on PE days until at least Easter 2021. This will help to ensure that any additional items, such as a black sweatshirt, that may have to be purchased will provide value for money as they will be worn on a large number of occasions.

To help with providing black sweatshirts to be worn on PE days Uniform Direct have worked quickly to produce and make available an Axholme Academy black sweatshirt that is available on their website.

Uniform Direct will put the Black PE Sweatshirt online for parents/carers to order with effect from Monday 5th October 2020.

The link to The Axholme Academy page on the Uniform Direct website is: <https://www.uniform-direct.com/acatalog/The-Axholme-Academy-School-Uniform.html>

The PE Sweatshirt will be on the page in all available chest sizes:

- 34" Age 12/13
- 36" (XS Adult)
- 38" (S Adult)
- 42" (L Adult)
- 44" (XL Adult)

The cost of the Uniform Direct sweatshirt is £8 for 34" and £10 for 36" upwards. Alternatively, a plain black sweatshirt from other retailers can be purchased and worn.

Parents can place their items in the basket and then go to checkout. Input your details and then choose a delivery option.

Select – NAME TAPES – This will tell Uniform Direct that the delivery is being handled by Uniform Direct Head Office.

In the Special Instructions add the text – Collect from School, your child's name and year/base group.

Part of the arrangement we have agreed with Uniform Direct is no delivery charge on orders up to 14th October 2020.

Orders received up to midnight on Wednesday 7th October will be dispatched to The Axholme Academy on Thursday 8th October to arrive Friday 9th October for distribution to students.

Orders received up to midnight on Wednesday 14th October will be dispatched to school on Thursday 15th October to arrive Friday 16th October for distribution to students.

The current Academy PE kit is still available from Design Box and includes a black Axholme Academy branded quarter zip long sleeved top and Axholme Academy branded raincoat. In addition to these items students can also wear black under armour tops and bottoms and also a plain black sweatshirt as described above. We have tried to provide a range of options for parents and students to help source appropriate PE kit.

We would like to take this opportunity to remind students and parents of our expectations around haircuts. Our Behaviour & Rewards Policy states that "Students are not permitted to have extreme hairstyles or unnatural hair colours. Parents and carers should contact the school beforehand if in any doubt as to whether a particular hairstyle is deemed extreme or hair colour is deemed unnatural." Our additional guidance to parents is to avoid entirely: undercuts, shaven lines and shapes, block cut and two tone colours. Please be aware that each of these styles are deemed extreme and we politely request that students do not wear these hairstyles during term time. We do realise that year 7 students and parents did not have the normal transition experience that would have clarified haircut expectations hence this necessary reminder.

We also encourage all students to have a weather-proof coat during the coming winter months rather than a 'hoodie' worn underneath the blazer on the journey to/from school or on the Academy site.

Any queries over the clarity of uniform expectations should be made in the next week via your child's head of year. Where we can provide clarification - we're very happy to do so. Any parent who has concerns about the affordability of uniform or PE kit should do the same. We wish to support families whenever possible, particularly at this current time.

We thank parents/carers and students for their on-going commitment, support and understanding.

Yours sincerely



Mr D Keogh
Principal