



Joseph Leckie Academy

Thursday 20th May 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

After consultation with the Academy Student Council and discussion with students and teachers, we have decided to change the Academy Policy as regards to the wearing of a uniform Academy hijab. While we consider the standardised colour of the hijab to be important to maintaining standards of uniform, we have listened to students who have suggested that the material of the current Academy hijab is not ideally suited for all who choose to wear it. Therefore, we have decided to change the policy to allow any material of hijab to be worn as long as it remains plain and in the uniform colour, namely dark grey for Years 7 to 11 and black for Years 12 and 13. All other rules applying to wearing the hijab in the Academy remain in place, so this means that the hijab worn must include none of the following:

- Embellishments or adornments of any kind
- Lace
- Beads
- Sequins
- Glitter etc
- Logos
- Patterns

We hope that this change will make all students who wear the hijab more comfortable in their dress while at school. This change will come in from Monday 24th May 2021. Any students who wish to continue to wear the Academy hijab from this date are more than welcome to do so, as it still meets all of the requirements outlined above. Academy hijabs will remain available to purchase from the Academy main reception at a cost of £5.

Can we please use this opportunity to remind you of the other requirements in Academy uniform, which is outlined overleaf. Uniform is an important part of our Academy identity and we maintain high standards in this area.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Kind Regards,

Mr James Ludlow
Principal

Joseph Leckie Academy

Walstead Road West, Walsall, West Midlands WS5 4PG

Principal: Mr James Ludlow

Tel: 01922 721071 **Fax:** 01922 641497

email: postbox@josephleckieacademy.co.uk

web: www.josephleckieacademy.co.uk



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Academy

PERSONAL APPEARANCE AND UNIFORM POLICY

The Academy uniform should be worn properly at all times, including between home and the Academy.

Make up: fake tan, false or painted nails, false eye lashes are not permitted. Students in Years 9-11 may wear light / discreet make up.

Hair: the Academy does not permit high fashion or extreme hairstyles. Any unusual patterns or shapes in the hair. Hair should not be of unusual / unnatural colours. Discreet tints / highlights of one other natural colour are permitted. Items such as Alice bands / hair bands should be plain black and worn only if holding the hair in place; rather than as a fashion accessory. No other adornments to be worn in the hair.

Shoes: should be “sensible” for all aspects of the Academy day and site, should be black, and protect the foot. Shoes should be low heeled and free from motifs / designs. For snowfall, appropriate footwear such as waterproof or leather boots may be worn. Plain black boots may be worn under trousers if the trouser meets the ankle, so that the boot is not visible. Boots may not be worn with skirts.

Coats & hats: sports tops, denim, leather / leather look jackets, hooded tops, fashion jackets, sweatshirts, baseball caps, flat-caps, do-rags and any other unsuitable clothing should not be worn on site. Such items will be confiscated and handed to Head of Year to follow up with the student / parent / carer. A warm outdoor / warm coat (not hoodies or sportswear) may be worn over the blazer but not in place of the blazer. A small logo / brand / badge is allowed.

Jewellery: no jewellery other than one pair of plain silver / gold studs in the ear lobes, one simple ring per hand and one bracelet / watch should can worn. No facial or body piercings are allowed due to student safety. A plaster is allowed for 10 school days immediately following a piercing only. A retainer must be worn after this period. Banned items will be confiscated on first sight and handed to Head of Year. No large or sovereign type rings permitted.

Trousers: must be black fabric (ideally hard-wearing) and not overly tight, or of stretchy material. Leather, denim, jeans, jeggings, leggings, combat trousers, amongst others, are not allowed. School trousers should not require studs, zips, or logos and should meet the shoe / boot at the ankle and not grip the lower leg. (Where a student has outgrown their trousers, black socks should be worn to avoid drawing attention).

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Skirts: should be black and worn either on, or a few centimetres above the knee. Shorter skirts, or those that are very tight / do not allow free movement / see-through material are not permitted.

Ties: must be clean, not be defaced in any way and must be tied properly, with the appropriate emblem showing. Ties that have been defaced will be removed and a new tie will need to be purchased the following day from reception.

Blazers: must be worn at all times, unless given permission for it to be removed by the class teacher. In hot weather the Principal will inform students if blazers may be removed for the day.

Shirts: should be tucked into trousers / skirt and top button closed with tie covering. Badges are required for blazers.

Phones: should be turned off and be out of sight at all times, anywhere on Academy site. Phones / earphones will be confiscated if seen and handed into reception, for parents to collect after school.

Please note that failure to follow the Academy uniform policy may result in your child being sent home to correct the situation. Please ensure that all items of clothing are labelled with your child's name. Expensive items should not be brought into the Academy and should remain at home. This is not an exhaustive list and any decisions made about uniform will be at the Principal's discretion.

****Sixth Form students are required to wear smart professional business clothing. See Sixth Form Uniform Policy**

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