



Lord Lawson of  
Beamish Academy

# LORD LAWSON OF BEAMISH ACADEMY

## UNIFORM POLICY

**Originator: Mr P Walsh**

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## INDEX

<b>Section</b>	<b>Page No.</b>
1. The Policy	3
2. Jewellery	4
3. Hair Colour	4
4. Nails	4
5. Procedure for uniform infringements	5
6. Procedure for breaches of uniform policy	5 and 6
7. Academy Uniform	7
8. LLOB PE Kit	8



## 1. The Policy

All students are expected to wear their uniform to foster a sense of equality and encourage pride in the academy. Students must always wear correct uniform while in the academy and when travelling to and from the academy. Where appropriate, students will be directed to wear their uniform on educational visits.

Parents/carers can buy items of uniform from the academy's stockists Little Gems (School Outfit). This can be done in person at their shop (62 Hutton Close, Crowther Industrial Estate, Washington, NE38 0AH) or online ([www.theschooloutfit.co.uk](http://www.theschooloutfit.co.uk)). Parents/carers should state that their child attends – or is planning to attend – Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy. This will ensure that parents/carers are directed to the correct items of uniform.

Our uniform requirements for all students are:

- Black blazer with the academy badge (compulsory in years 7 – 11).
- Black V-neck pullover with the academy logo (OPTIONAL).
- Plain white shirt that must be able to be buttoned to the top and have a collar. Shirts are required to be tucked into trousers/skirts at all times.
- School trousers should be traditional black tailored trousers. They should not be denim, leggings, linen, or cargo-type. Likewise, they should not be skin tight and should not resemble jeans, leggings, or jeggings. Trousers should be of an appropriate length; socks and ankles should not be on show. The school is aware that some shops are now advertising and selling 'school uniform' trousers that do not match our definition of formal dress trousers. We ask that parents/carers check this carefully before making purchases.
- Academy clip-on tie, red with black and blue stripes, clipped on correctly.
- Blue checked academy skirt (unmodified).

## 2. Shoes

School shoes should be leather-type and all black. They should have no obvious logos. For health and safety reasons, shoes should also have strong uppers: canvas shoes are not permitted. Any heels should be no more than 3cm in height. Black trainers are permitted, as long as they are all black with no obvious logos; they should be of a polishable, leather type material. Students are not permitted to wear any footwear that reaches above the ankle.



### **3. Jewellery**

The only jewellery allowed to be worn in school is a watch and one plain ear stud in each earlobe only. Ear studs should not contain diamonds, crystals, or other types of decorative materials. They should also be round in shape/design. No other facial or body piercings are allowed in school, including eyebrow studs, nose studs and tongue piercings. This is for health and safety reasons. Rings, necklaces, bracelets, anklets, or any other items of jewellery are not permitted. Students will be asked to remove these items or any other type of jewellery, if worn. If students are unable or unwilling to remove the jewellery, they will be taught in the Learning Support Room (LSR) or in isolation, at the direction of senior members of staff.

Jewellery that has been removed on the instruction of a member of staff will be kept and handed to reception staff and stored securely in a clearly labelled envelope. Students are able to collect confiscated items of jewellery at the end of the day on the first occasion of confiscation; thereafter it will be retained by the academy until it can be collected by parents/carers.

### **4. Hair Colour**

While we encourage students to be individual, with their own unique personality, we also wish to cultivate a positive and consistent image for the Academy. The academy does not accept inappropriate or extreme hairstyles (e.g. short, shaved sides, razor-cuts, or Mohican-style) nor unnatural colours, blocks, stripes, braids with colours or extensions. The school reserves the right to determine what is considered "inappropriate;" If a student wishes to dye their hair, they must choose a natural colour.

### **5. Nails**

Nails should be natural, with no coloured nail varnish applied to them. False nails, gel nails, acrylic nails or any alternative artificial adjustments are not permitted under any circumstances.

### **6. Makeup**

We prefer students not to wear make up in the academy, but if it is subtly applied and unobtrusive, it will be acceptable. Any make up applied should be natural in colour.



Excessive makeup must be removed. The school will determine what is considered to be excessive makeup. False eyelashes and false tan are not permitted.

### 7. Bags

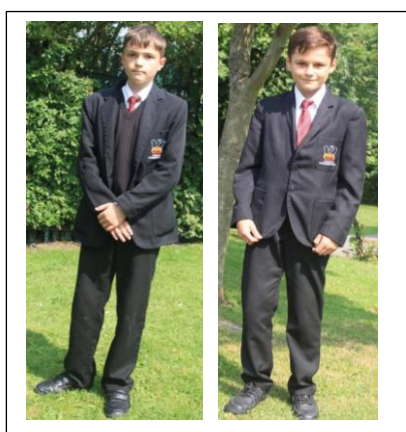
It is a requirement that every student should have a school bag large enough to carry an A4 ring binder. This is to ensure that they can carry PE kit and all the books and equipment they need for the school day. Bags should be marked or labelled with the student's name.

Uniform will be checked by staff on a daily basis. If a student attends school in non-uniform items without suitable explanation from a parent/carer (by telephone/email/letter) sanctions will be imposed.

**If any parent/carer is in any doubt as to whether an item of footwear and/or clothing will fit in with the academy's uniform policy, they should contact their child's year base.**

**Students not in correct uniform will be offered suitable clean spare school uniform to wear, where possible. If this is refused, or no spare uniform is available, students will work in the Learning Support Room (LSR) or in isolation, at the direction of senior members of staff.**

### Examples of Lord Lawson Uniform





## 9. PE Uniform



Branded blue sports top (supplied by Little Gems/The School Outfit).

This item is compulsory with no alternatives.



Hoody (supplied by Little Gems/The School Outfit).

Plain black hoody with or without a small brand logo is also acceptable.



Plain black shorts.



Black joggers (supplied by Little Gems/The School Outfit) or alternatively plain black tracksuit bottoms with or without small brand logo.

Plain black sports leggings are also acceptable with or without small brand logo.

**The PE Department will accept some alternatives to their listed uniform. Please find details of this below:**

All alternatives to hoodies must be black with a small brand logo. Please see some examples of acceptable alternatives below.



Below are some examples of unacceptable alternatives to the academy black hoody.







**Recommended P.E. tracksuit bottoms, leggings and shorts from Little Gems – This is not a compulsory item and alternatives can be worn.**



**All alternatives to tracksuit bottoms must be black with no script or stripes on either leg. Please see some examples of acceptable alternatives below.**



**Below are some examples of unacceptable alternatives to academy black tracksuit bottoms.**







Please see some examples of acceptable sports leggings below.



Below are some examples of unacceptable sports leggings.





All alternatives to shorts **must be black** with no script or stripes on either leg. They must be loose fitting, long and not of the tight cycling shorts variety. Please see some examples of acceptable alternatives below.



Below are some examples of unacceptable sports shorts.





## **10. Principles for dealing with uniform infringements**

Members of academy staff can discipline students for breaching the academy's rules on appearance or uniform. This should be carried out in accordance with the academy's published behaviour policy.

The Principal, or a person authorised by the Principal, may ask a student to go home briefly to remedy a breach of the academy's rules on appearance or uniform. When making this decision the academy will consider the student's age and vulnerability, the ease and time it will take, and the availability of the student's parents/carer. This is not a suspension but an authorised absence. However, if the student continues to breach uniform rules in such a way as to be sent home to avoid school, or takes longer than is strictly necessary to effect the change, the student's absence may be counted as an unauthorised absence. There will be an expectation that time missed will be made up by the student after school on the same day. In either case the student's parents/carers must be notified, and the absence should be recorded. If the academy considers suspending a student in response to breaches of uniform policy, then this must be in line with the legal requirements for a suspension.

Consistent scrutiny over standards of uniform is very important to maintain the high standards that we strive for at Lord Lawson of Beamish Academy. The first point of scrutiny is as a student enters the school site and as they enter the building. At this point, senior and pastoral staff will be present to observe the uniform that students are wearing. Breaches of the uniform policy will be challenged at this point.

To support the correct wearing and maintenance of uniform, standards of uniform will be inspected by the class teacher at the start of every lesson. Any issues that cannot be immediately rectified should be directed to the year base.

## **11. Procedure to follow in the event of a student breaching the uniform policy**

In determining the correct course of action to take, the member of staff should seek to find out the circumstances behind the breach. Initially, this should take the form of a conversation with the student to find out why the breach has occurred. Normally this would then be verified by contacting parents/carers. Where possible, year teams will offer the use of any available spare uniform, until the issue can be rectified.

For breaches of the uniform policy that are deliberate and cannot be rectified immediately (such as staff being unable to contact parents/carers) then it is justified for the student to be placed into the LSR or the year base until 3.55pm. This should then be raised with



parents/carers as soon as possible and assurances sought to ensure the student follows the uniform policy the following day.

The year base should make it clear to the parents/carers at this point that if the same issue is apparent the following day, the student may be turned away from school and sent home; this absence would be marked as authorised. Should the year base identify any issues that may prevent this course of action with the student e.g. parents/carers being at work, difficult transport issues, or a lack of perceived competence in the student (SEND, lack of maturity etc.) then the student may once again be placed into the LSR or the year base.

A further breach of uniform policy on the next school day may again result in the student being asked to return home, but their attendance would then be marked as unauthorised from this point on, until the issue is resolved.

If the breach in uniform is not deliberate and can be rectified within a short timescale (to be determined in negotiation with the parent/carer, typically the next day/next week) then a uniform dispensation slip (green slip) can be issued at the discretion of the pastoral team or senior staff. Students are expected to carry this slip at all times and present this to staff who may question issues around their uniform as they move throughout the academy. This slip would have an agreed date by which the issue regarding incorrect uniform would be resolved.

If the issue is not rectified within the agreed time scale, staff will operate in the same manner as if the student has deliberately breached the academy's uniform policy.

Where there are extenuating circumstances for not having uniform such as financial/medical reasons, year base staff will work with parents to resolve the issue.