

Dear Families,

Following our recent uniform consultation, I am delighted to share the outcome of the review and to introduce our updated uniform and appearance expectations for the 2026–27 academic year.

Firstly, I would like to thank all the students, families and staff who gave their time to take part in the consultation process. Your feedback, ideas and perspectives have been invaluable in helping us shape a uniform policy that reflects the needs of our community whilst maintaining the high standards and sense of belonging that are so important at Dixons Fazakerley Academy.

Throughout this process, we have sought to achieve two key aims.

- For families, we wanted to make our uniform offer even more affordable. We know that the cost of school uniform is an important consideration for many households, so we have carefully reviewed our requirements to reduce the cost of compulsory items wherever possible and provide greater flexibility and choice when purchasing uniform, whilst still maintaining the smart and professional standards expected at the academy.
- For students, we wanted to create a uniform that they feel comfortable wearing, that they can take pride in and that they feel represents them. We wanted students to feel that their voices had been heard and that the final policy reflects the views of the young people who wear our uniform. A significant number of our students engaged thoughtfully in the consultation, and it was important to us that they had a genuine opportunity to help shape aspects of the uniform they wear every day.

Furthermore, we know that young people value opportunities to express their individuality, so our aim has been to strike the right balance between autonomy and belonging—allowing students to make choices about aspects of their appearance whilst maintaining a smart, professional and purposeful learning environment.

As a result of the consultation, we have made changes and updates to both our uniform and our appearance code. These changes will take effect from September 2026 and are outlined in the updated Uniform and Appearance Guide attached to this communication.

The most significant changes include:

- Removing the cost of our core uniform offer for families by the removal of the compulsory academy blazer.
- Greater flexibility in uniform choices, including a wider range of colours for academy knitwear.
- A simplified uniform design, without purple as a feature of the academy uniform.
- Greater flexibility within our appearance code, including religious dress and a small adjustment to our jewellery policy.
- Clearer guidance on appearance expectations to ensure a shared understanding across the school community.

The principles underpinning our uniform policy remain unchanged. We continue to believe that a shared uniform promotes equality, belonging, pride and readiness to learn. At the same time, we recognise and celebrate the diversity of our community and have sought to ensure that our policy reflects this more effectively.

We are grateful for the constructive and thoughtful contributions made throughout the consultation process and are pleased that the final policy reflects the views of students, families and staff alike.

If you have any questions regarding the updated uniform expectations, please do not hesitate to contact the academy.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Nick Hughes
Principal