



THE WELLS ACADEMY

Be Kind. Work Hard. Achieve Greatness

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Dear Parent/Carer,

Firstly, I hope you have all enjoyed a relaxing summer break and managed to spend some quality time with your family and loved ones. I am writing to remind you of the return to the Academy dates for your child, the expectations upon return and some small changes for the 2021-22 academic year.

Return to the Academy dates

Students will be returning to the Academy in a staggered manner to ensure that asymptomatic testing can take place in a safely. Please see below the dates which your child will be returning:

Year group	Return to Academy date	Start time
7	Thursday 2 nd September 2021	8:30am
8	Wednesday 8 th September 2021	8:30am
9	Tuesday 7 th September 2021	8:30am
10	Wednesday 8 th September 2021	8:30am
11	Monday 6 th September 2021	8:30am

As you will see all students will be returning to a single start time of 8:30am. It is important that students are in their line up for 8:30am and should therefore aim to arrive at the Academy for 8:20am. The Academy will be open from 8:00am for breakfast.

Punctuality

The Academy will be working hard to ensure that ALL students arrive to school on time. *“At school on time”* is one of our learning habits and it is important that no learning time is lost due to lateness to school. The Academy will be open from **8:00am** for breakfast club. Students are expected to be in their line-up location for **8:25am** and must be in their line-up, in silence, at 8:30am. **Any student who is not in their line-up, in silence, by 8:30am is late and will therefore have a 40 minute, same day, detention.** Detentions will be served after school, with any year 11 students who are late on a Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday completing their detention at lunch time.

Please ensure that your child wakes up with plenty of time to get ready and take account of bus routes, possible delays and any other factors which may cause them to be late. If your child is going to be late due to a known issue (traffic, missed bus, etc) then please contact the Academy as soon as possible to inform us of this.



RESILIENCE



GREATNESS



Uniform expectations 2021/22

At the start of the previous academic year, we reinforced our uniform expectations, and the majority of students arrive to school every day wearing perfect uniform. However, a significant amount of both the student care team and teachers time is spent dealing with students failing to meet our uniform expectations. This has largely been with students wearing trousers that are too tight and skirts that are above the knee. Neither of which meet our uniform expectations.

To support parents/carers in making sure the uniform they purchase meets Academy expectations, we have included detailed uniform guidance below and provided additional visual guidance attached which shows what we are deeming to be acceptable and unacceptable. We want to make sure both students and parents are completely clear about what is, and is not, allowed within our uniform.

Can I please request that before returning to the Academy you check that your child has the correct uniform and that it meets our uniform standards.

Academy uniform	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ White shirt (regular fit, not fitted), with top button done up, Academy tie ✓ Plain black trousers (off the leg- straight cut, not skinny style) or formal school skirt that's down to the knees. ✓ Plain, black shoes with (black socks/ black tights) ✓ Plain black V-neck jumper ✓ Academy blazer 	
Inappropriate uniform (what we will not accept)	
Footwear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Canvas shoes or trainers ✗ Open front shoes ✗ Boots
Trousers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ Skinny/tight fit <i>This is a particular issue for girls and these trousers cannot be skin-tight either across the whole leg or at the thigh.</i> ✗ Elastic/legging/lycra based ✗ Cropped/showing shins or ankles <i>This is a particular issue for girls which, along with short socks, show ankles</i> ✗ Turned up legs ✗ Visible zips ✗ Denim, rivets or studs
Skirts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ More than a student/credit card away from the knee ✗ Skater skirts ✗ Tight fit or lycra based skirts ✗ Skirts with embroidery, patterns or ridges
Socks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✗ White or coloured socks ✗ Trainer socks or socks with frills ✗ Any short socks which show ankles
Headscarves	Headscarves worn for religious reasons should be black.



Coats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Hoodies × Cardigans × Fleeces × Sweatshirts or zipped fabric jackets × Wearing additional jumpers to travel to school in × Any top that is not included in our uniform
Hair	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Any extreme hair colour (any unnatural hair colours)
Make Up/Nails	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Heavy make-up × Acrylic or gel nail extensions. × Bright eye shadow
Piercings	<p>Ear Piercings: <u>Students CAN wear one pair of small studs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × No multiple ear piercings × No hooped earrings × Hanging earrings × All other types of ear piercings × Ear stretchers/Ear Expanders <p>Nose Piercings: <u>Students CAN wear a small stud in their nose</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Nose rings × Septum Piercings <p>Facial Piercings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> × <i>Any existing unacceptable piercings need to be removed regardless of when the piercings have been done (Eyebrow, lip, tongue, or any other facial piercings are not permitted).</i>
PE Kit Expectations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> × Wells Academy PE t-shirt or plain black t-shirt (with no logos) × Wells Academy PE 1/4 zip tracksuit top or plain black sweatshirt (with no logos) × Black shorts, tracksuit bottoms or sports leggings × Trainers suitable for indoor and outdoor use <p>× Wells Academy t-shirt and 1/4 zip tracksuit top are available from Price and Buckland uniform suppliers.</p>

We want to keep our expectations as clear as possible to assist you in making the appropriate choices when purchasing new school uniform.

We will be continuing our daily uniform checks after the summer break. **If your son/daughters' uniform does not meet our expectations, then they will be given an acceptable pair of trousers/skirt to wear, and parents/carers will be charged £8 for the replacement item of uniform which your child can keep. If your child arrives to school with additional piercings, unnatural hair colour or heavy make-up heavy, they will be isolated until the issue can be resolved.**

We ask for parents/carers to give their full support in helping us to achieve our high standards. Thank you for your support in this matter.



Further guidance for students, parents and carers

We want to make sure both students and parents/carers are completely clear about **what is, and is not, allowed within our uniform.**

We expect all students to arrive to school wearing **perfect uniform.**

Acceptable Uniform

Below are examples of what is **acceptable** school uniform:



Girls formal school skirt down to the



Too short



Girls formal straight cut school trousers -off the leg



Too tight



Boys formal school trousers



Plain black polishable formal school shoes

Boys



Boys black polishable shoes

Trainer/pump style shoes

Girls



Year 11 extended Academy day

Upon our return to the Academy Year 11 students will be taking part in period 7 lessons (3:30pm – 4:30pm) on a Tuesday-Thursday, with these sessions supporting their GCSE studies. After consulting on this change with parents/carers, earlier in the last academic year, there was overwhelming support for this. As a result of the later finish Tuesday-Thursday, any detentions for year 11 students on these days will be completed at lunch time.

These sessions are critical to the success of Year 11 students in their GCSE studies and are part of the students' Academy day. Therefore, **attendance to this session is compulsory and will be subject to the normal attendance processes.**

Equipment expectations 2021/22

This year we have made some slight changes to the equipment list. The additional items required will be provided by the Academy, free of charge. The equipment which you will need to buy for your child is as follows:

2 x Black or blue pens	2 x Green pens	1 x Pencil	1 x Ruler (30cm)
1 x Rubber	1 x Pencil Sharpener	1 x Glue Stick	2 x Highlighters (different colours)
1 x Pencil case	1 x School bag (A4)		

These items can be brought from any supplier, but the Academy sells the full equipment pack for £1.80 on ParentPay. The Academy will provide your child with the following equipment upon their return.

1 x A4 folder	1 x Retrieval book	1 x A3 zip folder	1 x Dictionary/Thesaurus
1 x Scientific calculator (Casio FX-83GTX)	1x French dictionary (Year 7 & 8 only)		

“Ready to learn” is another of the Academy’s learning habits and it is important that students have all their equipment, every lesson, every day. From September 2021, **all students will be required to carry their equipment pack around with them throughout the Academy and not have it in their bag.** This will ensure that all students are always ready to learn without any time wasted.

Chewing gum

As stated in our behaviour policy, chewing gum is not allowed at the Academy and will be confiscated if students bring it in. Chewing gum is not aligned to our professional standards and causes a significant amount of damage to the academy furniture. As a result, from September 2021, any students seen chewing gum will be instructed to put it in the bin and issued with a 40-minute same day detention. As is stated in our behaviour policy, any defiance will lead to a period of isolation or a fixed term exclusion.

Kind regards,



Mr Shepherd
Proud to be Principal of The Wells Academy

