

Alder Community High School Uniform and Equipment Policy 2026-27

Our uniform is an essential part of our identity. It instils a sense of pride and belonging in our school and signals a readiness to be part of our learning community. It is school policy that uniform is worn at all times during the school day and for all out of hours school events. Uniform should be worn correctly to and from school as the impression our students give in the community is of extreme importance.

COMPULSORY UNIFORM ITEMS

From September 2026, this school requires 4 compulsory branded items in line with government regulations.

✓ COMPULSORY BRANDED ITEMS (4 items including tie)

Item	Details	Where to Purchase
1. Blazer	Black blazer with school badge	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde or My Clothing Online
2. Tie	Green clip-on or traditional tie with school logo in the appropriate house colour	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde or My Clothing Online Or school via ParentPay
3. PE Top	Black breathable sports top with school logo	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde or My Clothing Online
4. PE bottoms	A choice of: 1. black shorts with school logo 2. black track pants with school logo 3. black leggings with school logo	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde or My Clothing Online

Important: Not allowed: Sleeves to be rolled up on blazer.

✓ COMPULSORY GENERIC ITEMS (can be purchased from any retailer)

Item	Specifications
Trousers	Smart, plain black tailored school trousers that sit below the ankle bone. Not allowed: Stretchy, shiny materials, hipster style, leggings, ankle grazers, wide leg, flares and skinny leg trousers and other types of similar fashion trousers.
Skirt	Smart, plain black tailored school skirt. This should sit just above the knee. Shoes must be worn with a skirt (not boots). Opaque black tights must be worn with a skirt, socks must not be worn over tights. Not allowed: Skirts to be rolled up. Skirts made of jersey, Lycra or shiny material. Skirts with splits. Tube skirts.

Item	Specifications
Shirt	Plain white, long or short sleeved school shirt. They must have a high collar button which allows the tie to be worn. This must be tucked in.
Shoes	Plain black formal school shoes. Not allowed: Contrasting coloured stitching (other than white or yellow)/laces/stripes/logos/ashes/glitter etc. Platform soles or heels. Trainers and pumps are not allowed under any circumstances. Shoes that resemble pumps or trainers are not allowed. Despite shops advertising these 'crossover' shoes as school shoes, they are not permitted.
Socks/Tights	Plain black/white socks which cover the ankle when wearing trousers. Black opaque tights must be worn when wearing a skirt. Socks must not be worn over tights. Not allowed: Trainer socks, bed socks, sports socks or knee length socks. Coloured socks. Socks with frills/patterns/logos/bows. <i>Summer uniform will allow socks with skirts – usually after May half term but this will be decided based on weather.</i>
PE Running Trainers	Running trainers (not pumps or fashion trainers). Not allowed: Branded sports clothes or fashion trainers e.g. Converse

✓ OPTIONAL BRANDED ITEMS

Item	Details	Where to Purchase
Jumper	Alder logo black V neck long sleeved jumper can be worn underneath the blazer	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde or My Clothing Online
Tank Top	Alder logo sleeveless jumper can be worn underneath the blazer	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde
PE Top	Black long sleeved PE top with school logo	Kidstop, Hyde or JFC Sports Ltd, Hyde

OUTDOOR WEAR

Hoodies and other jackets should not be worn underneath the blazer. We encourage everyone to wear an outdoor coat. Outdoor coats, hats, scarves and gloves etc. must be removed upon entry to the school building.

REQUIRED EQUIPMENT

All students must bring the following equipment to school every day:

- A black pen, a red pen, a pencil, an eraser and a ruler in a pencil case
- A reading book

- School timetable
- A scientific calculator (model number: Casio fx-83GT X or fx83GT-CW)
- A clear re-fillable water bottle
- A strong, waterproof school bag suitable for carrying schoolbooks and equipment

Lockers are available at a cost of £6.50 (non-refundable), payable via ParentPay

APPEARANCE STANDARDS

Jewellery

Jewellery **MUST NOT** be worn in school. This includes earrings and all other piercings. Regular wrist watches are allowed but these must not be a smart watch/apple watch etc. If seen or heard, the item will be confiscated and must be collected by parents/carers. School reception is open from 7.30am – 4.00pm for parents/carers to collect confiscated items.

Make-up

- **Year 7, 8 & 9:** No make-up allowed
- **Year 10 and 11:** A discreet layer of foundation can be worn
- **Not allowed:** Fake tan and false eye lashes

Nails

Natural nails should be of an appropriate length. **Not allowed:** Nail varnish/gel/art/diamantes and false nails.

Hair Style and Head Wear

Longer hair should be tied back for practical lessons, with a plain hairband. Thin headbands, small plain hairclips and bobbles should be plain black. Girls may wear a plain black headscarf (no tassels, lace or fringe of any type and small enough to be tucked into the shirt so the tie can be clearly seen). If hair is 'undercut' on any student, the hair must be worn down.

Not allowed: Ornate hair decorations, hair slides with diamantes/pearls, large bows etc. Extreme hair styles, shaved patterns/tramlines/lines, 'skinhead', 'mohican', 'top knot' etc. Shaved lines in eyebrows.

Hair Colour

Hair should be a natural, all-over colour. Any changes in hair colour should be subtle and natural. **Not allowed:** 'Dipping', double tone, front strips, un-natural colour such as dyed red/black.

Tattoos

Real or fake tattoos are not allowed.

Mobile Phones, Smart Watches, Other Digital Technology and Earphones

These items must not be brought into school. If seen or heard, the item will be confiscated and must be collected by parents/carers. School reception is open from 7.30am-4.00pm for parents/carers to collect confiscated items.

IMPORTANT GUIDANCE FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Items of uniform should be hard wearing. Please stick to our guidelines and beware of 'back to school' sections in some retailers trying to sell inappropriate clothing to parents.

Please ensure that all items of uniform and PE kit have your child's name inside.

In extreme hot weather, parts of the uniform requirements may be relaxed. This may include the blazer and tights with a skirt. This will be at the discretion of the Headteacher.

Parents/carers are advised to consult with the child's Head of Year if they are considering allowing their child to have a change in appearance or item of dress which may conflict with the school policy. If you are in any doubt about the suitability of items of uniform/footwear please contact school before purchasing.

PRE-LOVED UNIFORM

At Alder Community High School, we are committed to supporting our families and promoting sustainability. We offer a range of pre-loved school uniform items in good condition, available to all students and parents in exchange for a donation or free of charge. Choosing pre-loved uniform helps reduce waste and ensure every student has access to the essentials they need. For more information or to request items, please contact Mrs Lennie via the school office or email uniform@alderchs.uk

CORRECTIVES

The Headteacher will be the arbiter in all matters relating to uniform and appearance. Any student arriving at school not in uniform; in unsuitable uniform; wearing inappropriate jewellery or with an unsuitable hair style or hair colour, may spend time in internal isolation (Compass) and in all cases will have a 30-minute detention at the end of the school day.

The pastoral team will hold a stock of spare, clean items of uniform and shoes. Any student wearing incorrect uniform or footwear will be expected to change into these for the day. Refusal to do so is a breach of the behaviour policy and will be sanctioned accordingly.

Students who do not have the correct equipment for their lessons will have a 30-minute detention at the end of the school day.

POLICY REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure it continues to meet the needs of our school community and complies with statutory guidance on uniform costs.

Policy approved: Summer 2026

Next review date: Summer 2027