



Uniform and Acceptable Appearance Policy

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This policy applies to ATAM Academy

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1. Introduction

At Atam Academy, we believe the school uniform achieves three important goals:

- **It encourages a sense of community identity and pride.** By wearing the same badge and the same clothing, pupils are encouraged to think of the needs of the community as well as their own individual needs.
- **It encourages our pupils to develop habits for life.** By learning to polish their shoes, fold trousers or hang up their blazers, pupils learn the habits of discipline and personal responsibility that will stay with them for life.
- **It prevents unkindness or bullying while keeping costs down.** By requiring all our pupils to wear the same low-cost uniform, we reduce the incentive for pupils to ask parents for the latest (and most expensive) items of fashion. As a result, costs are kept as low as possible and no child can be seen to be poorer or wealthier than any other.

However, for our uniform policy to be successful, it must be implemented universally and without exception. Our parents understand this and so support us at home to uphold the School's high standards.

We expect shoes to be polished at least once each week. We expect pupils to wear a clean shirt every day. We expect children to shower daily and use deodorant as appropriate.

This may seem obvious, but, sadly, there are some pupils whose poor personal hygiene is embarrassing for them. With care and attention, it can easily be avoided.

We understand that, for some families, finances are tight. We believe that, by doing all we can to keep items of fashion out of school, we help families to keep costs down. Nevertheless, if you do have an individual problem, or you are unsure about an item of clothing, please do not hesitate to contact your child's Director of Learning who will deal with your enquiry in the strictest confidence.

2. School Uniform

At Atam, we only allow blazers and ties that are purchased through our supplier. This is a way in which we ensure that each of our pupils looks as smart and professional.

Our supplier also offers shirts, a coat and scarf, as well as other items, but it is not compulsory for parents to purchase these items through our supplier.

Please note that some items are compulsory, whereas others are optional. Items marked with an asterisk (*) can only be bought via the following supplier:

www.khalsaschoolwear.co.uk

Khalsa Schoolwear, Bethnal Green Store, 388 Bethnal Green Rd, London E2 0AH

Secondary Uniform

Secondary

1. ATAM blazer with badge
2. ATAM tie
3. ATAM jumper/cardigan
4. Grey trousers/Grey skirt (below knee with tights). Tights must be worn with a skirt
5. White collared shirt
6. Plain grey or black tights or socks
7. **Plain black** flat shoes (no trainers, no boots, **no logos**)

No logos, patterns or embellishments of any kind are allowed.

Primary Uniform

EYFS- nursery

1. Navy polo shirt
2. Navy joggers
3. ATAM jumper / cardigan
4. Plain grey or black socks
5. **Plain black** flat shoes (no trainers, no boots, **no logos**)

EYFS - reception

1. White polo shirt
2. Grey trousers/Grey skirt (below knee) Tights or long white socks must be worn with a skirt)
3. Plain grey or black tights or socks
4. ATAM jumper / cardigan
5. **Plain black** flat shoes (no trainers, no boots, **no logos**)

KS1 and KS2 (Years 1-6)

1. White collared shirt and school tie (compulsory)
2. Grey trousers/Grey skirt (below knee)
3. Plain grey (years 1-4) or black (years 5-6) tights or socks
4. ATAM jumper / cardigan

5. **Plain black** flat shoes (no trainers, no boots, **no logos**

No logos, patterns or embellishments of any kind are allowed.

Trousers must be long enough to touch the shoe when a pupil is standing and skirts should be (at least) knee length.

Any pupil not in possession of one of the items of compulsory uniform will be placed in Student Support Centre (SSC) until a parent or guardian can bring the correct item to school.

2.1 Labeling

All items of clothing (including bags) must be clearly marked with the pupil's full name. Sew-on labels are preferable to iron-on labels and black permanent markers may be used but names should be written large and clear. Any lost property will be taken to reception where it can be collected by pupils and parents.

Should there be any questions as to what acceptable school uniform is please contact the school to check before purchase.

2.2 Boys' Hair

Pupils' hair must be in a conventional and understated style. There should be no contrast between the top of the hair and the sides. Short sides must be faded gradually into the top of the haircut so there is no noticeable 'step' or layering.

Some specific styles that are not permitted:

- 'Skin fades' where the pupil's hair is cut below a Number 1 on the sides.

- Hair that is teased, backcombed or be covered in excessive product (wax, gel etc.)
- Patterns shaved into a pupil's hair or eyebrows, including an artificial parting.
- High or flamboyant hair styles, such as a 'Mohican'.
- Any unnatural colours.
- Styles that block the view of others in any way.
- Styles that hide the face.
- Heavy floppy styles or large quiffs at the front.
- Any other hairstyles that the School considers to be inappropriate.
- Durag and shiny material are not allowed to be worn in school.

Pupils whose haircut is not deemed by the school to be an acceptable style will be placed in Student Support Centre until a parent / carer gives permission for the pupil to return to the barber and have the haircut changed.

Pupils whose hair needs to 'grow out' (due to an inappropriate hair cut or pattern) must remain in Student Support Centre until the hair is an acceptable length. Pupils are not permitted to spend this time at home. Any days at home while hair is growing out must be made up in Student Support Centre on the pupil's return.

2.3 Girls' Hair

Girls' hair must also be in a conventional and understated style. Any hair clips or hair bands must be subtle and black or navy blue in colour. There should be no more than three beads on the ends of braided hair.

Some specific styles are not permitted:

- Styles where large bunches, buns or ponytails on top of the head obscure the views of pupils sitting behind in class.
- Bows, flowers or other adornments in the hair.
- Gelled edges where the intention is to decorate the hair.

- Unnatural colours or extensions.
- Styles that hide the face.
- Patterns shaved into the pupil's hair or eyebrows.
- Any other hairstyles that the School considers inappropriate.

However, this list is not exhaustive and the School's decision on what is/is not acceptable is final.

Pupils whose haircut is not deemed by the School to be of an acceptable style will be placed in Student Support Centre until a parent or guardian gives permission for the pupil to return to a hairdresser.

2.4 Religious head covering

Some of our students may choose to wear a religious head covering. If so, the religious head covering must look conventional and understated in style.

- Religious head covering must be **black or dark blue**. (NO DURAGS)
- Pins or clips must be small, dark in colour and understated.
- There can be no decorations such as sequins or patterns.
- Material must not be too long at the front or the back so as to obscure the uniform or look untidy. At the front, religious head covering material must not go below the V-neck of a jumper or equivalent.
- If pupils choose to wear a headscarf, it must completely cover the hair.

2.5 Shoes

School shoes should be black, flat and logo-free. The style should be traditional, avoiding the appearance of a trainer.

Some specific styles that are not permitted:

- Styles that appear to be more like sports trainers than professional black shoes.
- Boots or ankle boots.
- Suede shoes.
- Styles that have more than one Velcro-fastener.

- Styles with obvious logos or branding.
- Elaborate buckles or decorations or patterns.

However, this list is not exhaustive and the School's decision on what is/is not acceptable is final.

If parents are unsure as to whether a particular style will be accepted, they must send a picture of the shoe to the School *before* purchasing.

Pupils wearing unacceptable shoes to school will be placed in Student Support Centre until a parent or guardian can bring an acceptable pair of shoes to school.

Parents who are struggling to find acceptable affordable shoes are encouraged to contact the School who will be happy to recommend appropriate footwear.

2.6 Belts

Students may wear a belt with their trousers.

Belts must:

- Be black.
- Be leather (or leather effect).
- Have a small, professional buckle.
- Have no obvious branding.

Belts that are unacceptable will be confiscated and returned at the end of the half-term in line with our confiscation policy.

2.7 Make-up

Pupils in Years nursery to 9 must not wear any make-up. If found to be wearing make-up of any description pupils will be asked to remove it immediately. Failure to do so will result in immediate Student Support Centre. Nail varnish of any description, as well as nail extensions, are similarly forbidden.

Pupils in year 10 to 13 are allowed natural looking make up. Nail varnish) Nail extensions, are similarly forbidden.

Pupils are not allowed to wear henna. Pupils who come into school with henna visibly adorned on the hands will have to cover this with gloves.

2.8 Jewellery

Atam operates a strict no jewellery policy for both boys and girls. Specific items that are not allowed:

- Facial Piercings. (Single nose stud and single stud in ears is allowed) - Bracelets.
- Rings.
- Necklaces or chains.

Any jewellery worn by the pupil while in school uniform will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

2.9 Other accessories

Glasses worn by pupils in school should be black or navy and without patterns, logos or embellishments.

The School does permit pupils to wear watches but they should be plain and understated in style. Oversized fashion watches, watches in bright colours and watches worn as jewellery are not acceptable. Smart watches are not allowed to be worn in school.

The School's decision on what is/is not acceptable is final.

Any unacceptable watches worn by a pupil while in school uniform will be confiscated and returned at the end of the day.

3. Items of Religious Significance

The Principal may grant exceptions to any of the above, but only where this is required as a matter of **sincere religious observance** and where this can be substantiated by a letter from the leader of the relevant religious community.

The School's decision is final.

Kirpan

If you are an amritdhari Sikh the school will allow the Kirpan to be worn, subject to the following conditions:

- i. that it is restricted to students/staff who have gone through the Amrit ceremony;
- ii. that the Kirpan, is no more than 6 inches long including the handle, will be sheathed and restrained with a cord, to the satisfaction of the school, in

- such a way as to ensure that it will be incapable of withdrawal;
- iii. that the sheathed Kirpan will be further enclosed in secured padding and securely sewn up;
 - iv. that the Kirpan will be worn under clothing and will not be visible, to provide the highest possible safety at all times;
 - v. that, on no account, will the Kirpan be drawn while the young person/staff member is on school premises whilst on a school trip or on school transport or involved in other school activity;

Further guidance on the Kirpan in schools can be found [here](#).

Kara

A Kara is a simple unadorned iron/Steel bracelet proportionate to the child's arm. Kara should have no sharp edges, spikes, these will be confiscated by the Sikh ethos team or to be told to put in bag

4. Confiscations

If a pupil is wearing any unacceptable items, (s)he will be expected to remove it immediately. The item(s) will be held in the school safe and will be returned at the

end of the half term.

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If an item is confiscated within the last two weeks of a half term it will not be returned until the end of the **following** half term. This applies in all six half-terms and means confiscated items are held over school holiday periods. This can mean a confiscation period of up to sixteen weeks.

5. Sports Kit

In order to reduce the expense of uniform for parents, sport kit will consist of:

- ✓ **Plain black/navy jogging bottoms, no stripes or piping**
- ✓ **Plain black/navy polo top (with collar)**
- ✓ **Plain black/navy fleece (for winter)**
- ✓ **Plain black trainers with no logos and no white bottoms**
- ✓ **Pupils may wear a plain black or navy blue base layer under their polo shirt (for winter)**

We do not want pupils feeling under pressure because they do not have the latest fashion accessory! No logos are allowed for this reason.

If pupils already have the ATAM sports kit, they can still wear it. The ATAM joggers with one strip of white piping are allowed. If not wearing the ATAM joggers, they must be plain with no stripes or piping.

Our uniform supplier is Khalsa Schoolwear, 388-390 Bethnal Green Road. Tel: 020 7729 3286

You can purchase plain items from other shops and supermarkets.

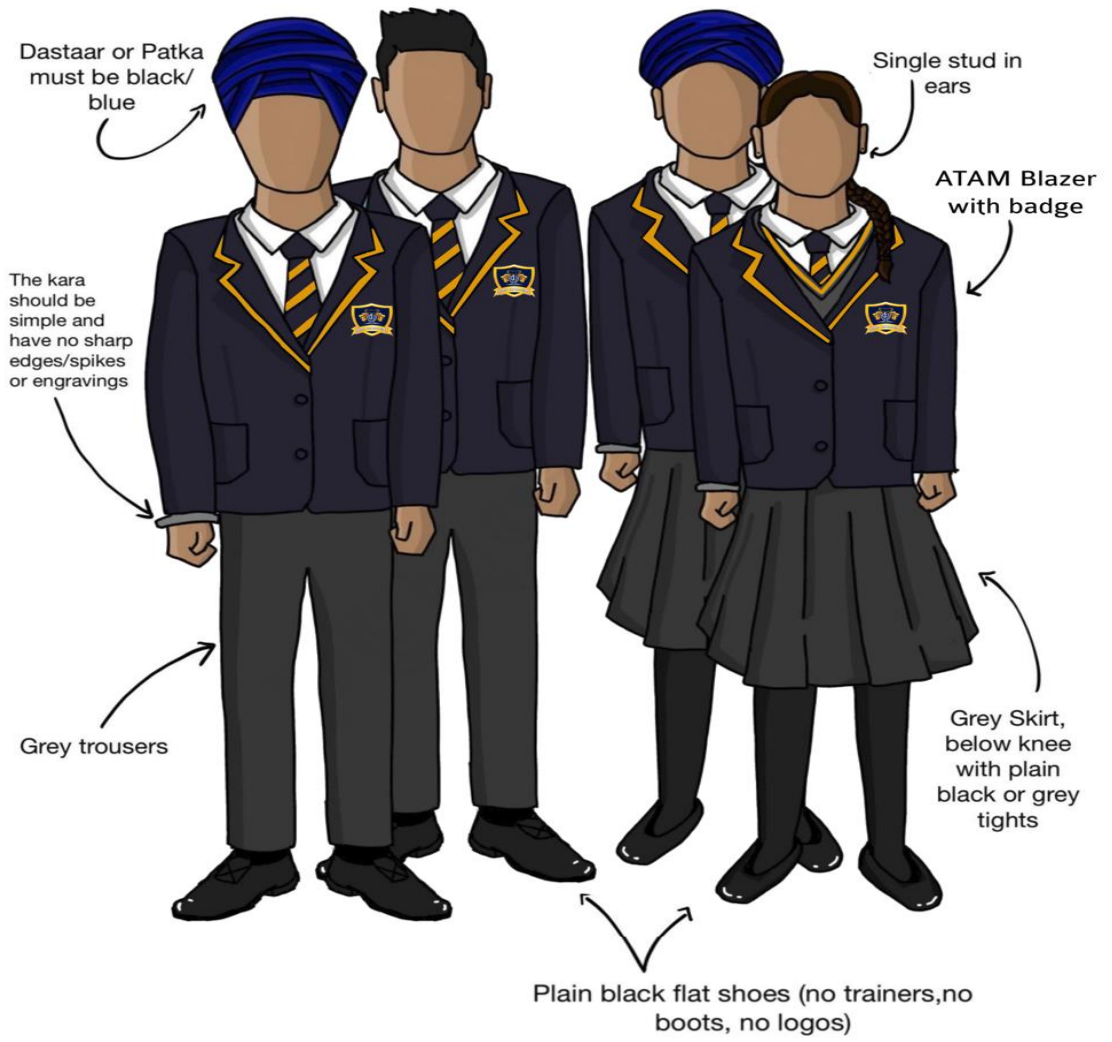
6.1 Trainers

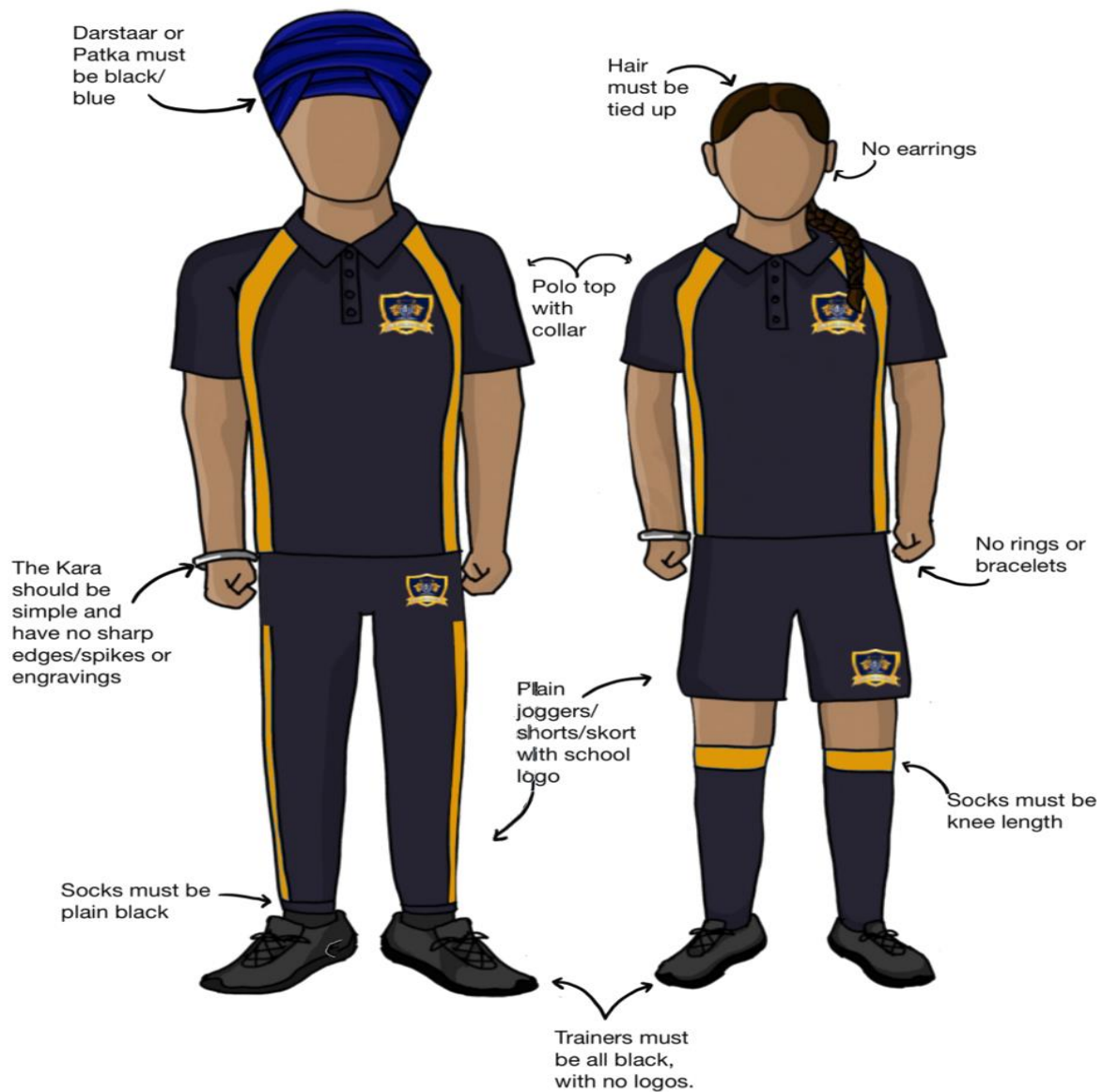
<p>Acceptable training shoes: all black, no logo</p>	<p>Unacceptable training shoes: not all black (white sole), visible logo</p>
<p>✓ </p>	<p> No logo ✗ No white bottom</p>

Sports kit should not be too tight. The school will ask pupils to replace clothing that is deemed too close fitting.

Sports kit should be washed weekly.

6. Uniform & Appearance Image Appendix





A. Hair - Acceptable Haircuts and religious head covering



Patterns, lines are not allowed in school

Patterns and Lines in eyebrows are not allowed in school



Black Dastaar/Turban

Blue Dastaar/Turban

Black or blue (navy) Patka



Hair tied back with stud earrings Blue (navy) or black Patka

C. School Shoes - Acceptable School Shoes



D. Belts



Why?
 - Black
 - Leather effect
 - Small, professional buckle
 - No obvious branding



Why not?
 - Brown not black



Why not?
 - Fabric, not leather effect



Why not?
 - Unprofessional buckle



Why not?
 - Unprofessional buckle
 - Obvious branding

E. Other Accessories – Appropriate Watches / NO side small bags (Chest bag, Murse, Pocket) Allowed



