



# Knox Academy

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Dear Parent/Carer

As the new session approaches I feel it is important to write to you about our expectations in relation to school uniform. Knox Academy is very proud of its tradition of school uniform and the wearing of it helps promote the sense of community within the school, our wider community and create that feeling of 'belonging'. Alongside 'Respect' and 'Ambition', 'Community' is one of our school values and it is hoped our young people wear the Knox Academy uniform with pride.

A few years ago our young people and parents/carers were consulted on what they wished the school uniform to comprise. Through recent discussions with staff, pupils and parents a few tweaks have been made to our uniform. The school uniform in August 2021 will be as follows:

- White/black shirt
- Tie (with House stripe on it)
- Black v-neck or crew neck jumper (plain and only with school logos or no logos)
- Black trousers/solid black jeans or skirt (no leggings or ripped/blue jeans)
- Headcoverings – worn for cultural or religious reasons, should be black
- No hats/hooded tops/baseball cap to be worn in the school
- Black shoes
- School blazer (for all in S5 & S6 – as has been the case for years)

Each pupil belongs to a House at the school; another way of building community. To support the House ethos, new school ties were designed two years ago. These House ties feature the Knox Academy logo and have a stripe below this in the House colours the pupil belongs to. If your young person is in S3-S5 at present and you would like support with replacing the tie, please speak to their Pupil Support Leader (Guidance).

In relation to health and safety, hooded tops of any description **will not** be acceptable dress code (this includes Knox Academy sports hooded tops which should only be worn for sports). I would ask for parental support with adhering to this request and not purchasing hooded tops for wearing. Often young people are tempted to wear their hoods up and this compromises everyone's safety. We need to ensure that everyone's faces are visible in and around the building at all times so we can keep everyone safe. Thank you.

Shoes should be all black so as to avoid pointless discussions on those with logos attached and other elements of colour. White shoes, which may be fine for PE, are not part of the school uniform. A skirt should be of an appropriate length for wearing in a school based environment. Trousers should be whole, rather than with designer holes or tears which are not suitable for a working environment.

Our hope is that this presents a more simplified, consistent approach, in that the expectations for all year groups will be the same (with the exception of blazers for S5/6). S1 pupils are gifted a school tie on their first day of school at Knox Academy so everyone starts with this. However if you do need to purchase a tie, this will be available from the School

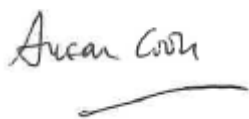


Office at a cost of £6.00. For the purchase of school blazers, please liaise directly with Border Embroideries as we are unable to offer a fitting service at the school at this time. Parents/carers are able to purchase all other items of clothing from whichever outlet they wish, so long as they conform to the expectations. We also have lots of spare uniform at the school, in all sizes and for free, so if you would like to access this please contact your young person's Pupil Support Leader.

Financial support in buying school uniform is available from East Lothian Council. For details of eligibility and how to apply please follow this link: [knox.is/mealsandclothing](https://knox.is/mealsandclothing).

I thank you in advance for your co-operation in ensuring that pupils adhere to the school's uniform expectations and I trust that this period of notice will allow you to make the necessary arrangements so that we can start the new session in style.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "S Cook". The signature is written in a cursive style and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

S Cook