

Moving Up To

The Vale Academy

A guide for students and parents



Welcome

Welcome to all of you in Year 6, soon to be Year 7, and your families. We are thrilled that you will be joining us at The Vale Academy and we are looking forward to getting to know all about you.

At The Vale Academy, relationships are very important to us, so just like you want to find out all about us, we want to find out all about you so that we can support you to be the best you can be. We want you all to achieve excellence in all aspects of your school life so that you can have a successful future and make a strong contribution to the community. So, between now and the end of Year 6, we will be visiting you to really get to know you. This will help us to make sure we are ready for you!

We are very proud of The Vale Academy and of our students, and we know you will make a great addition to our school community.

Dr S Stokes, Principal.

A very warm welcome to all Year 6 students joining us at The Vale Academy in September. I am sure you will be feeling a little nervous as well as very excited. You will have many questions you would like answering and some worries to lay to rest. Our transition programme will help you do this.

By the time you visit us for taster days we will have visited many of your primary schools and gathered lots of information about you from your teachers. We use this to support you and help you settle at The Vale Academy. Our students are looking forward to welcoming you too. Year 7 students are very much involved in transition activities. They will share with you first-hand how great life is at The Vale Academy.

This is the start of a new stage in your life. The opportunities awaiting you at The Vale Academy are very exciting.

Academy Day

Time	Period
8.45 - 9.45am	Period 1
9.45 - 10.45 am	Period 2
10.45 - 11.30 am	Break/Tutor
11.30 - 12.30pm	Period 3
12.30 - 2.00 pm	Lunch / Period 4
2.00 - 3.00 pm	Period 5

In the interest of good discipline, please arrive promptly at your lessons. The duty team will raise their hand a few minutes before each session starts to ensure that students arrive on time for lessons.

**We are currently consulting with all stakeholders to change the school day to a 3.00pm finish. A final decision will be published in July 2023.*

Equipment

We all recognise that we come to the academy to learn. In order to do this it is essential that you bring the correct equipment every day.

- ✓ • Student Planner
- ✓ • Pen
- ✓ • Pencil
- ✓ • Ruler
- ✓ • Coloured Pencil Crayons
- ✓ • Scientific Calculator
- ✓ • Compasses
- ✓ • Protractor
- ✓ • PE Kit
- ✓ • Technology Apron
- ✓ • Exercise Books / Folders



Planner

Your planner is not just a homework diary; it is designed to help you:

- Plan your work
- Manage your time
- Write all homework in



Your planner is a means of communication between you, your tutor, your teachers and your parents/carers. Please make sure that your parents/carers see your planner every week.

You must have your planner in every lesson. Your planner should be shown every morning on the blue line and placed on your desk in every lesson.

Classroom Rules

- Follow all staff instructions
- Do not disrupt others by shouting out or talking when the teacher is talking
- Attempt all the work set and ask for help if you do not understand
- Stay in your seat unless you are asked to move
- Treat other people in the class with consideration and respect



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"There's a wide variety of lessons available at The Vale Academy. Our teachers support and challenge us to achieve in every single subject."

—

Lucy
Year 11 Student

“

"The Vale Academy has a community feel and everybody is welcome. We are proud to be students here!"

—

Oskar
Year 7 Student



“

"We have after school clubs and activities that are open to everyone. These help to develop our teamwork, leadership skills and resilience."

—

Elliot
Year 7 Student



Attendance

How we support good attendance

- We celebrate good attendance within form groups, in our rewards assemblies and through certificates and prizes.
- Form groups are regularly set challenges to further improve their attendance. This encourages healthy competition within the Academy and between forms.
- Students discuss their attendance on a weekly basis in Form Learning Time and have coloured stickers that clearly show what their attendance is so that it is clear to keep a track of.
- Special awards are given to those students achieving 100% across all five years within the Academy.

There are 175 days for holidays, shopping, birthday celebrations and non-urgent appointments.



Below 90%

This is a huge concern and means that over 19 days of learning have been lost over the course of the year.



Over 95%

Things can get better. This equates to 10 days of learning missed per year.



100% attendance

This is excellent and means that students have the best chance of success.



97% or above

This is what we are aiming for and means that students are attending at least 185 out of 190 days of learning.



The best chance of Success

100%
Attendance

97%
Attendance

190 days
in school

185 days
of school

5 days
absent

Worrying

95% Attendance

180 days of school

10 days absence

Serious Concern

92%
attendance

90%
Attendance

175 days
of school

171 days
of school

15 days
absence

19 days
of absence

The Vale Way

"The Vale Way" has three main principles and applies to all members of the academy community:

Principle 1

Education and Academic Success: we endeavour to provide all students, irrespective of ability, with the highest possible quality of learning and teaching.

Values: hard work; ambition; resilience; achievement.

Principle 2

Join in, join in: involve yourself in as many extra curricular and enrichment activities as possible. Ensure you have a voice and contribute your views and ideas.

Values: involvement; team work; personal development; democracy.

Principle 3

The Vale Community: we expect our students to show care, loyalty and support for each other, to behave in a way which supports all students' learning and to be kind, courteous and helpful.

Values: mutual respect; following academy rules; tolerance; loyalty; care and support.



Lunchtime Menu (sample)

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri
Main Dishes	Chicken Tikka Masala with Wholegrain Rice*	Chicken Fillet in a Bun Jacket Wedges	Roast of the Day Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Cottage Pie	Battered Fish Fillet with Chips
Vegetarian	Veggie Meatballs with Rice*	Mac n Cheese	Country Vegetable Pie Roast Potatoes & Gravy	Veggie Lasagne	Vegetarian Sausages With Chips
Jacket Potatoes	With a daily choice of toppings	With a daily choice of toppings	With a daily choice of toppings (must include Tuna & Salmon***)	With a daily choice of toppings	With a daily choice of toppings
Vegetables	Sweetcorn & Peas	Peas & Carrots	Green Beans & Carrots	Sweetcorn & Peas	Baked Beans & Peas
Desserts	Apple Muffin	Flapjack & Custard	Brownie Cake	Apple Cracknell & Custard	Crunchie Chocolate Biscuit
High Street Faves	Bacon Mac n Cheese	Ultimate Cheese Burger	Lemon Piri Chicken Pitta	Special Marinated Roast Chicken Drumsticks with BBQ or Sticky Tabasco	Deep South Turkey Burger
	Pizza	Pizza	Pizza	Pizza	Pizza
	Pasta	Pasta	Pasta	Pasta	Pasta

Key Places



Main Hall



Sports Hall



Blue Line



Dining Hall



Main reception area and ground floor corridor leading to main hall



Library



Courtyard



Second floor science corridor



First floor corridor leading to the library

Uniform

Jewellery, Hair Colour and Make Up

For health and safety reasons jewellery should be limited to a wrist watch (no smart watches/fitness trackers). No facial or body piercings allowed. No make up and only natural hair colours allowed.

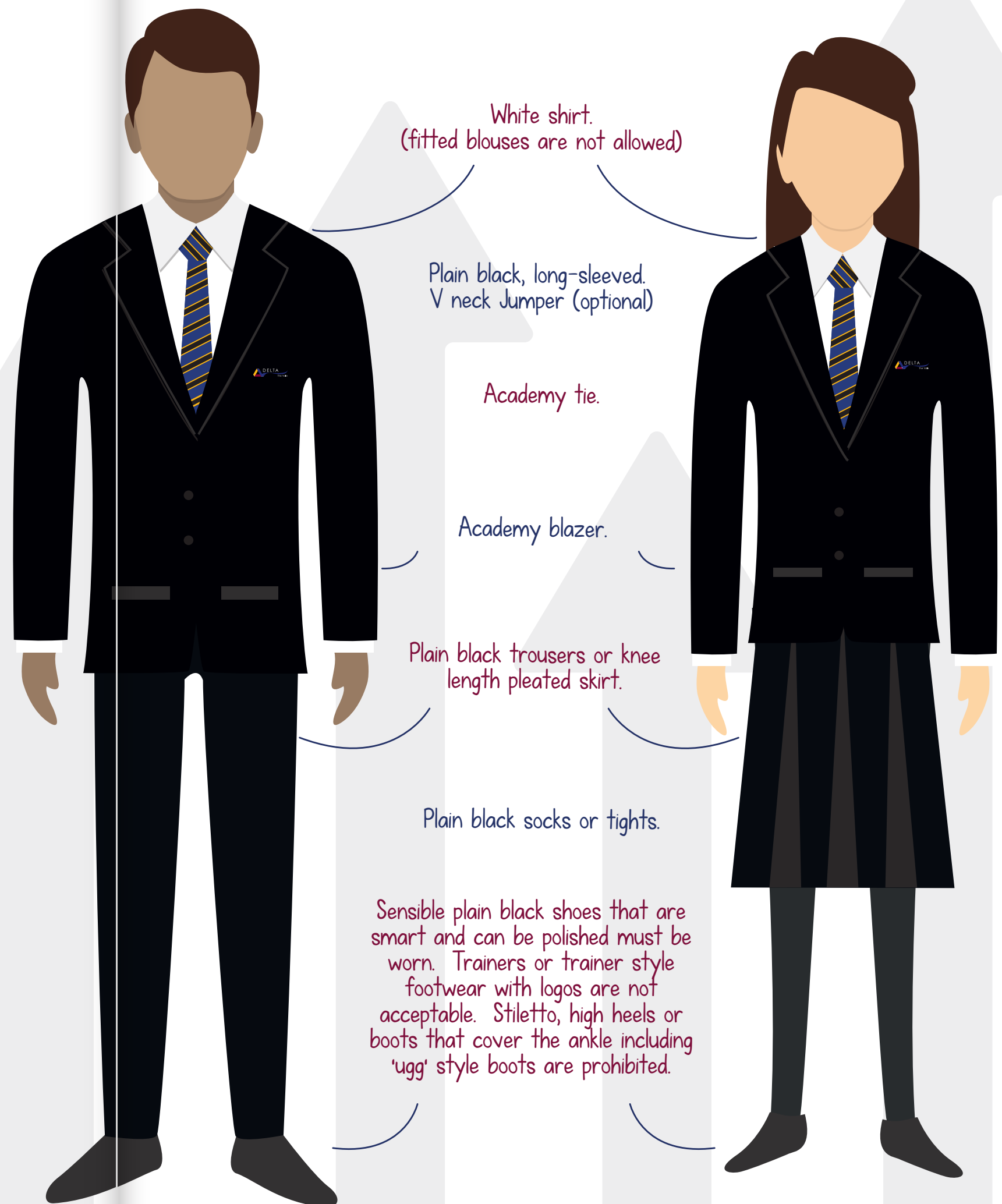
Student PE Kit and Equipment

Indoor

- Delta Short Sleeve PE top
- Delta Long Sleeve PE top (outdoor only)
- Blue Delta PE shorts
- White socks (indoor)
- Clean non-marking trainers

Outdoor

- Delta Academy long sleeved PE top (outdoor use only)
- Plain black tracksuit bottoms (outdoor use only)
- Black knee length socks
- Football/hockey boots





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