

Swinton Academy

East Avenue, Swinton,
Mexborough, Rotherham S64 8JW

t: 01709 570586

e: enquiries@swintonacademy.org

w: swintonacademy.org

CEO: Rebecca Scutt BSc (Hons), PGCE

Principal: Chela Wilson BA (Hons)



Striving for **Excellence**
Empowering Achievement
Shaping **Learning**

Monday 29th September 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well and that the autumn term is proving an enjoyable and successful one for your child/ren. I am writing to you to provide an update in relation to the purchase of school uniform items from April 2026.

As referenced in my newsletter earlier this month, the Trust is working with an external procurement company, Education Commercial Services, in order to ensure best value for money, to improve efficiencies and to ensure adherence to statutory compliance regulations. To date, successful projects have included Trust-wide energy, catering (Mellors) and printing solutions. A further project which has recently been approved by Trustees has been to re-tender the Trust-wide uniform supplier contract.

The rationale for the uniform tender was first and foremost, to ensure best value for money for parents/carers, through a local provider who is able to offer ethically sourced, high-quality items of uniform. Also of great importance, was the assurance of high-quality customer service and the winning provider being able to evidence tackling economic inequality through education and training.

Schoolwear Solutions will be ACET's new school uniform provider from April 2026 (currently, Pinders have this contract) – this was approved through a fair and transparent tendering process, with Schoolwear Solutions being able to offer competitive pricing for parents, along with a many other benefits which include:

- Pre-loved uniform recycling – donations will be collected during the 'Pop-up Shops' and key academy events, with all items washed, size-checked and redistributed.
- Provision of at least one sports team kit for each ACET secondary academy.
- Savings and deposit schemes will be available to help parents/carers spread the cost of uniform purchases.

Part of the **ACET** family

Company number: 07577113

Aston Community Education Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales

- Provision of work experience placements for students in Key Stage 4.
- Careers insight sessions to be delivered at all ACET secondary academies.
- A monetary contribution towards each academy's Y11 Prom, thereby reducing the cost of prom tickets for parents/carers.

Schoolwear Solutions have produced a letter outlining what their service includes along with uniform costs, and I want to reassure parents that while the local shop may be a further distance away than Pinders' shop locations, there are other ways of purchasing uniform items which should prove more convenient:

- Termly opportunities to visit & purchase uniform items from the **'Pop-up Shop' on site at both Aston and Swinton Academy**. The principal will communicate with parents/ carers when such events are planned from April 2026. We are also planning to offer the pop-up shop on two occasions during the six-week holiday in July/August, ensuring the sessions are open beyond 5pm to accommodate working parents.
- Blazers & PE tops will be available to try on in the academy – students will be able to visit the Student Services / Reception on site for support/guidance with sizing.
- All online orders can be delivered to either Aston or Swinton Academy, free of charge (with no minimum spend required).
- In-store support will be available at Cliffs in Doncaster.

Schoolwear Solutions will only be stocking uniform items with the new logo on from April 2026 – until this point, parents/carers should continue to purchase logoed items from Pinders.

Should you have any questions about the uniform provider, can I please ask that these are directed to the academy principal in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours faithfully,

Rebecca Scutt

CEO

Part of the **ACET** family

Company number: 07577113

Aston Community Education Trust is a company limited by guarantee registered in England and Wales