

Uniform Policy (2023-24)

A school uniform is crucial to a successful classical school, accomplishing three key goals. First, it diminishes the burden of thinking about clothing and fashion that can become all-encompassing for many students. This removes distractions in the classroom and redoubles focus on the task at hand. Second, it helps students take school more seriously by acknowledging that, through dress, we respect fellow classmates, teachers, and the common enterprise of education. Third, it develops school identity and pride. All students are therefore expected to adhere to the school uniform policy.

When questions about particular aspects of the uniform arise, the student is expected to follow the general and leading spirit of the policy, which is to diminish distractions, show respect, and elevate the tenor of the school.

Students must be in uniform in order to attend class. Consequences for not wearing the proper uniform are outlined in the family handbook.

All items that include either the school logo or the school plaid must be purchased through DENNIS Uniforms. Items such as khaki pants and shorts or the white non-logo shirts can be purchased either through DENNIS or elsewhere.

Uniforms will be designated as “summer uniform” and “winter uniform.” The “summer uniform” shall be worn in the first and fourth school quarters; the “winter uniform” shall be worn in the second and third school quarters – unless otherwise directed by the Dean of Student Life or the Headmaster. The following provides a summary of the uniform policy:

BOYS K-4		
	SUMMER UNIFORM	WINTER UNIFORM
Pants	khaki shorts or pants	khaki pants
Shirt	short-sleeve navy polo with logo	white oxford with logo (short-sleeve or long-sleeve) or white long-sleeve polo
Shoes	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only
Sweater	not required	navy v-neck cardigan sweater is permitted for outerwear; sweatshirts are not permitted to replace sweaters
Tie	not required	optional
Socks	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)

BOYS 5-7		
	SUMMER UNIFORM	WINTER UNIFORM
Pants	khaki shorts or pants	khaki pants
Shirt	Short-sleeve navy polo with logo	white oxford with logo (short-sleeve or long-sleeve)
Shoes	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only
Sweater	not required	navy v-neck vest or pullover sweater is permitted for outerwear; sweatshirts are not permitted to replace sweaters
Tie	not required	Hamilton plaid tie required
Socks	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)

GIRLS K-4		
	SUMMER UNIFORM	WINTER UNIFORM
Jumper	Hamilton plaid	Hamilton plaid
Pants	khaki shorts permitted as alternative	khaki pants permitted as alternative
Shirt	white polo or Peter Pan blouse	white Peter Pan blouse
Shoes	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only
Sweater	not required	navy v-neck cardigan optional
Tie	not required	Hamilton plaid crossover tie required
Socks	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)

GIRLS 5-7		
	SUMMER UNIFORM	WINTER UNIFORM
Skort	Hamilton plaid	Hamilton plaid
Pants	khaki shorts permitted as alternative	khaki pants permitted as alternative
Shirt	white polo with logo	white oxford with logo (short-sleeve or long-sleeve)
Shoes	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only	conservative athletic or dress shoes: white, black, brown, blue, or grey only
Sweater	not required	navy v-neck vest or pullover sweater is permitted for outerwear; sweatshirts are not permitted to replace sweaters
Tie	not required	not required
Socks	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)	white, black, brown, blue, or grey only (must show above the shoes)

Additional Uniform Provisions

- PE class uniform policy: Students in grades 3-7 will change into their PE uniform for PE class. A CLASSICAL T-shirt and CLASSICAL gym shorts, available from DENNIS Uniform, are required; CLASSICAL sweatpants are optional
- Students may wear their own outerwear (coats, sweaters, vests) to school and on the playground. If a student is cold in the classroom, he or she should wear one of the long sleeve uniform items or the uniform sweater.
- All students must be in uniform at all times. No other clothing other than uniform tops and bottoms is permitted. No outside tops, jeans, or bottoms are permitted in the building.
- All shirts must be tucked in.
- Skirts and shorts shall fall no higher than two inches above the knee as measured when the student is standing.
- Leggings or tights may be worn underneath skirts or jumpers but must be ankle-length or footed in a solid color—gray, navy, white, or black. Leggings are not to be worn without other bottoms on top.
- Girls may wear gym shorts or compression shorts underneath their skirt, so long as these are not visible when the student is standing.
- Students may use any backpack as long as it meets the following requirements: no wheels, no pop culture advertisements or references, and no slogans
- Hair must be clean and neat. Only natural colors are allowed. No unusual or radical hairstyles are permitted. Hair accessories must be uniform colors (options available from DENNIS Uniforms). Boys' hair should not come lower than the eyebrows in the front or lower than the top of shoulders in the back.
- All girls' and boys' polo shirts may have the top button un-buttoned. All other buttons must be buttoned.
- Modest jewelry is allowed. An object that has a purpose other than jewelry may not be worn as jewelry (e.g., chains or collars). Students may wear no more than two necklaces at one time.
- Girls are permitted a maximum of two earrings per ear on the earlobe, and earrings must not be larger than a quarter. No stretched piercings (gauge) or holes may be visible.
- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.
- Tattoos must be covered at all times. Temporary tattoos that are visible on the body or face are not permitted.
- Makeup and nail polish must look natural. Colors such as black, red, yellow, orange, blue, green, rainbow, etc., are not acceptable.
- Hats and sunglasses are not to be worn in the building. Hats include visors and bandanas. Religious headgear is permitted when worn for religious purposes.

- Non-marking tennis shoes are required for P.E. class and/or sports in the gym. Kindergarten, first, and second grade students will not change for P.E.
- Shoes, socks, and shoelaces should be one of the following colors: white, black, blue, brown, or gray. Shoes must be closed-toed, closed-heeled athletic or dress shoes; we recommend wearing a comfortable shoe that can be worn in the classroom, in gym class, and outdoors at recess.
- The following footwear is NOT permitted: boots, sandals, moccasins, Crocs, and slippers.
- Good personal hygiene is required at all times. This includes wearing neat, clean clothing. Clothes may not be ripped or torn.
- The use of perfumes, oils, and body sprays by students should not inhibit the learning environment and smells should not be detectable in the course of a normal school routine. Smells of this nature that saturate a room often cause headaches, exacerbate allergies, and cause a disruption to the learning environment. Should this occur, students will be excused to the front office to call home.
- Should a student require reasonable uniform alterations based on religion, disability, or medical condition, please contact the Dean of Student Life. Please know that we will provide accommodations for these students.
- All school-sponsored events that occur during the school day, including field trips, are subject to school uniform policy unless parents are otherwise informed.
- All Fridays throughout the year are designated as “Spirit Wear Days.” On these days, students are permitted to wear Spirit Wear as tops. This includes CLASSICAL T-shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies, fleece pullovers, and quarter zips. Outerwear, including full-zip jackets are not permitted to be worn during the course of the day. (Outerwear may be worn to and from school and on the playground.) Students must wear uniform bottoms on Spirit Wear Days.