



DOGWOOD CLASSICAL ACADEMY

Dogwood Classical Academy (DCA) Uniform Policy

DCA's mission is to develop students in mind and character through a rigorous, classical, content-rich curriculum that emphasizes the principles of academic fundamentals, virtuous living, and civic responsibility.

Philosophy:

Students will wear school uniforms that will instill in them the importance of a neat and professional appearance conducive to an orderly learning environment. 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.

Uniform Guidelines:

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. Students not in uniform will be sent to the office. The office will keep a limited inventory of basic uniform items that a student may be permitted to wear in order to meet uniform requirements and return to class (in most cases with a tardy slip). Loaned items will be carefully tracked and must be returned in clean, like-new condition. In the event that the office does not have appropriate uniform items for a student out of uniform, the student must call a parent or guardian. Parents will either bring acceptable attire, or students will be sent home. These absences are not excused.

DENNIS Uniform is the sole uniform provider for all uniform pieces which require a logo. The uniform and dress code policy is that students will dress according to the mandatory and optional

items listed on the Board-approved uniform policy for boys and girls, respectively, plus the following series of directives. Basic details for the school uniform, including ordering information, can be found on the Dogwood Classical Academy website.

Tops:	Bottoms:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DCA green or light blue polo* (long or short-sleeved) ● DCA green or light blue polo dress* ● DCA green or light blue sweater or fleece* ● Plain green or light blue sweater or fleece 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Khaki or navy blue pants ● Khaki or navy skirts/skorts and shorts** ● Khaki or navy jumper** over an approved polo

*Must have DCA logo and purchased from an approved vendor.

**Shirts/skorts/shorts/jumpers/dresses must extend to the knee when students are standing.

Additional Uniform Provisions:

- All students must be in uniform at all times. NO OTHER clothing other than uniform tops and bottoms are permitted. No outside tops, jeans, or bottoms are permitted in the building.
- All shirts must be tucked in.
- All girls’ and boys’ polo shirts may have the top button unbuttoned. All other buttons must be buttoned.
- Skirts and shorts must extend to the knee when students are standing.
- Leggings or tights may be worn underneath clothing 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.
- Hair must be clean, neat, and styled traditionally. Only natural colors are allowed. No unusual or radical hairstyles.
- Shoes, socks, and shoelaces should be mostly white, black, blue, brown, or gray. Shoes must be closed-toed, closed-heeled tennis or dress shoes; boots, sandals, moccasins, and slippers are not permitted.
- Non-marking tennis shoes are required for P.E. class and/or sports in the gym. K-6 students will not change for P.E.
- Modest jewelry is allowed. An object that has a purpose other than jewelry cannot be worn as jewelry (i.e. chains or collars). Students may wear no more than two necklaces at one time. Students 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.

- Makeup and nail polish must look natural. Colors such as black, yellow, rainbow, etc., are not acceptable.
- 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 one of the uniform outerwear items.
- 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.
- Good personal hygiene is required at all times. This includes wearing neat, clean clothing. Strong/offensive body odors are inappropriate. Clothes may not be ripped or torn. Boys should be clean-shaven and sideburns should not extend lower than the earlobe.
- 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.
- Students may use any backpack as long as it is clean and tasteful.
- Should a student require reasonable uniform alterations based on religion, disability, or medical condition, please contact administration.
- All school-sponsored events, including after school and weekends, are subject to school uniform policy.

Uniforms and Financial Assistance:

DCA will not allow financial need to limit access to the School, and this includes access to uniforms. At minimum, the School will fund one complete uniform set for children whose families qualify for financial assistance.

Lost and Found:

The student Lost and Found is in the front office. Students are responsible for retrieving their misplaced items. Due to limited space, all unclaimed items will automatically be donated to either Goodwill or the school uniform store on the 30th of each month.