

Uniform Policy (Updated 2023)

DIA's uniform policy exists to simplify our students' mode of dress to focus attention and time on their education. DIA has established a uniform policy for several compelling reasons.

- 1. Uniforms promote a sense of unity and belonging among students by creating a level playing field, where everyone is dressed in the same attire regardless of their socio-economic background. This helps to minimize visible differences and reduce social pressures related to fashion choices, ultimately fostering a more inclusive and accepting school environment.**
- 2. Uniforms contribute to a professional atmosphere, preparing students for future endeavors in the workforce where dress codes are often enforced. By instilling a sense of discipline and respect for rules, uniforms help students develop a sense of responsibility and self-discipline.**
- 3. Uniforms enhance school safety and security, as they make it easier for staff to identify students and quickly detect any unauthorized individuals on campus.**

Overall, DIA's uniform policy supports our commitment to equity, professionalism, and safety, while creating an environment conducive to learning and personal growth.

Uniform Rules and Expectations

1. The use of uniform is mandatory for all students

Uniforms at DIA are mandatory during school hours as well as before and after school when participating in school programs. Students are required to wear the uniform appropriately throughout the entire school day. Should students be out of uniform compliance, the following will be enforced:

- Parents of students who are out of uniform will be notified.
- Parents will bring in the appropriate clothing
- Consequences for continual issues with uniform are defined in the '*DIA Table of Consequences*'.

Students may not opt out of uniform expectations. Exemptions may be allowed in extenuating circumstances, such as students with special physical needs, to accommodate religious beliefs, or other special needs, or on occasions when costumes or specialized clothing are authorized by the administration.

2. All uniform items require the official DIA school logo

3. Student clothing must be purchased from DIA approved uniform vendors OR appear identical to approved uniform items.

If in doubt, parents will ask a school representative at the front desk before finalizing purchases.

4. All clothing must be an appropriate size for the student.

Clothing cannot be tight-fitting, too short, too baggy, or over-sized.

- The hem of pants must not drag on the ground.
- Skirt and jumper hems must come to the knee.
- Waistbands must be worn no lower than the top of the hipbone.

Polos

Classic collared knit shirt with long or short sleeves in solid white or dark green. **Black polos are permitted only for 6th-8th grade students.** DIA logo required.

- Long sleeve undershirts are not permitted

Pants

Full-length and business-style twill pants, in khaki.

- Pant legs hang straight from the hip; no tapered, skinny, or pencil-leg pants
- No casual or jean-style pants.
- No cargo or pockets on legs
- No flares.
- No denim.

Skirts and Dresses

Girls may wear neat and clean khaki skirts or jumpers instead of pants. Skirts and jumpers must fall to at least the top of the knee.

Sweaters, Vests and Coats

Sweaters:

- Button down cardigan in solid dark green. **Black cardigans are permitted only for 6th-8th grade students.** DIA logo required
- Pullover cardigan in solid dark green. **Black cardigans are permitted only for 6th-8th grade students.** DIA logo required
- Pullover sweatshirt in solid dark green. DIA logo required

Vests: V-neck and round neck sweater vest in dark green. **Black vests are permitted only for 6th-8th grade students.** DIA logo required.

Coats: All winter coats MUST button or zip up the front to allow visibility of the official DIA uniform. Winter coats may be worn to school, but will not be worn throughout the school day.

Tights and Leggings

Tights and leggings may be worn under skirts and jumpers. These must be solid white or black.

Shoes

Students must wear primarily solid white, black, or dark brown shoes. No visible details, accents, or decoration. No heelys (skate shoes), casual shoes (slippers, moccasins, etc.),

Hair - Hair must be neat, clean, and well-groomed. Hair should not draw unnecessary attention to itself. As such, extreme hair colors and/or styles are not permitted.

Hair Accessories - Hair accessories are to be small (no larger than the size of the student's fist) and not extreme in color, style, or form. Any item should not draw unnecessary attention to itself.

Makeup - Makeup should be tasteful and not draw attention to itself. Extreme colors and/or styles are not permitted.

Jewelry, Cosmetics, etc:

Jewelry worn to school must be kept to a minimum. Dangling earrings, chains and bracelets, etc. can be restrictive and hazardous as well as distracting in the classroom and on the playground. Body piercing jewelry must be limited to the ears. Students may be asked not to wear some jewelry to school. Students may not wear or bring cosmetics or make up of any kind to school. Body paint, tattoos, etc. are not permitted.

Jewelry and other accessories are not to be extreme in color, style, or form. Any item should not draw unnecessary attention to itself.

Administration maintains the right at any time to make judgment calls regarding the appropriateness of hair, hair accessories, jewelry, make-up, clothes, shoes, etc. Students who are determined to be out of uniform will be required to come into full compliance to remain in class/school. Students who lack appropriate clothing will be allowed to call home to have a parent/guardian bring the necessary item(s) to school for the student to be compliant to the uniform policy.

Exceptions to the Uniform Policy:

Some field trips and special events may call for appropriate, non-uniform clothing such as hiking clothes or dress clothes. Parents are informed in advance of such occasions. At the discretion of the director, an exemption to the uniform policy may be made.