



AMERICAN ACADEMY
EDUCATE | INNOVATE | EXPLORE

American Academy Student Uniform Policy

This policy was modified and approved by the American Academy Board of Directors on April 15, 2010.

Purpose

The learning environment is significantly influenced by students' attire. The purpose of the uniform policy is to promote learning, reduce the distraction and cost of fashion, reduce disruptions and disciplinary problems, and promote school pride. Enrollment at American Academy constitutes acceptance of this policy, agreement to adhere to it, and acknowledgment of discipline for noncompliance as set forth in the American Academy Student Discipline Policy.

American Academy Uniform

Uniforms for all American Academy students are mandatory. Uniforms must be from **Dennis Uniforms**. Uniforms must be worn during school hours, except under special circumstances such as Dress of Choice days and other occasions designated by the HOS.

Approved Dennis Uniforms Items

■ GIRLS

- Marymount plaid jumper (shift style)
- Marymount plaid skirt
- Twill pleated or flat front pants in navy
- Stretch twill flat front pants in navy
- Twill pleated or flat front walking shorts in navy
- Peter Pan collar short or long sleeve blouse or Jersey blouse in white
- Short or long sleeve polo in navy, red, or white (American Academy logo required)
- Mock turtleneck in white only (may not be worn alone or under a short-sleeved uniform top)
- V-neck cardigan in navy or red
- V-neck sweater or sweater vest in navy or red
- Navy zipped hooded sweater (American Academy logo required)
- Crew neck, hooded, or ¼ zip sweatshirt in red or navy (American Academy logo required)

■ GIRLS: additional options for grades 6-8

- Navy fleece vest (American Academy logo required)
- Navy fleece jacket (American Academy logo required)
- Marymount plaid skirt
- Twill pleated or flat front pants in khaki*
- Stretch twill flat front pants in khaki
- Twill pleated or flat front walking shorts in khaki*
- Pleated skirt in khaki
- ¾ sleeve white twill overblouse

BOYS

- Twill pleated front or flat front pants in navy
- Twill pleated front or flat front walking shorts in navy
- Short or long sleeve polo in navy, red, or white (American Academy logo required)
- Short or long sleeve oxford in white
- Mock turtleneck in white only (may not be worn alone or under a short-sleeved uniform top)
- V-neck neck cardigan in navy or red
- V-neck sweater or sweater vest in navy or red
- Crew neck, hooded, or ¼ zip sweatshirt in red or navy (American Academy logo required)

■ **BOYS: additional options for grades 6-8**

- Navy fleece vest (American Academy logo required)
- Navy fleece jacket (American Academy logo required)
- Twill pleated or flat front pants in khaki*
- Twill pleated or flat front walking shorts in khaki*

** Please note: khaki is the preferred color over navy for middle school students, understanding that some 6th graders may still be growing out of their navy items from 5th grade.*

Uniform Items Selected by the Student

■ **Socks (Boys and Girls) and Tights (Girls only)**

Socks must coordinate with the Uniform and be in a solid, opaque color. Permitted colors are navy, red, white, black, or khaki (middle school only). For girls, socks with the Marymount plaid trim from Dennis Uniforms are permitted. Tights must be navy, red or white; no black or khaki tights are permitted.

■ **Belts (Boys and Girls)**

A belt must be worn at all times for third grade and up with pants and shorts that have belt loops. Belts must be solid black, brown, or blue and have modestly sized buckles.

■ **Hair Accessories (Girls only)**

Girls may wear hair accessories that coordinate with their student uniform including headbands, scrunchies, rubber bands, ribbons, bows and small barrettes. Permitted colors include red, white, navy, Marymount plaid, and black/brown (rubber bands and barrettes).

■ **Shoes (Boys and Girls)**

Shoes must be worn at all times in the styles and colors defined below. At no time shall any open-toed or open-heeled shoes be worn. Sandals or “Crocs” of any brand are not allowed. Shoes offered by Dennis Uniforms are suggested as a guideline.

- ***Casual and Dress Shoes***

Casual and dress shoes must be solid black, solid brown or solid navy in color, made of leather or suede (or leather-like or suede-like material), and no more than one inch in height at the heel. They must also be free of any decorative design, pattern, symbols, characters, beads, bangles or glitter. Laces, bands and straps must be of the same solid color as the shoe and free of any decoration. Buckles may be the same color as the shoe, or any style of brass, gold or silver metal. Casual and dress shoes must not extend higher than the ankle. Boots of any style are not allowed with the exception of snow boots for recess and travel to and from school in inclement weather. Styles recommended, but not required, include Oxfords and Mary Janes.

– **Athletic Shoes**

All athletic shoes must have non-marking soles and have a body color of black, brown, navy, or white (gray is allowed only for the manufacture logo/name, not as a body color of the shoe). The body of the shoe must be in good repair. They must also be free of any decorative design (pattern, symbols, characters, beads, bangles or glitter) other than the manufacturer's name and/or logo and brand-specific artwork such as the Adidas stripes, the Nike swoosh, the Puma puma, etc., in black, brown, navy, grey or white.

Laces, bands or straps must be of the same color as the shoe and free of any decoration (i.e. white laces with a white shoe are ok, but red laces with a black shoe are not ok; laces with hearts or smiley faces are not ok). Shoes with wheels in the bottoms are not allowed. High-top athletic shoes are not allowed. Approved athletic shoes must be worn on PE days. Students who are unable to tie their shoes are required to wear no-tie athletic shoes.

– **Boots**

Snow boots may be worn to school or during recess in inclement weather. Boots must be removed in designated areas within the school building and replaced with shoes.

■ **Outerwear (Boys and Girls)**

Coats, hats, gloves, sweaters, sweatshirts, etc. are allowed outside the school building. All outerwear needs to be removed once inside the building. Colorado weather can change suddenly. Parents are responsible for making sure their students are prepared for changing temperatures.

General Uniform Guidelines

Uniforms shall be clean, fit properly and in good condition. No tight fitting uniforms may be worn. Items worn inside the classroom must be an approved uniform item. Only plain white undershirts or Dennis Uniforms mock turtle necks may be worn under uniform shirts for warmth. No long sleeve shirts are allowed to be worn underneath short sleeve shirts. Shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Student Grooming

■ **Hair**

American Academy respects the individuality of students. Hair must be appropriate for a school environment. Boy's hair may extend below the ear lobe, but not below the collar. All styles for boys and girls should be neat and have combed appearance. Facial hair and sideburns are not allowed. Unusual (hot pink, lime green, purple, etc.) hair coloring is not allowed.

■ **Hats**

At no time will hats, bandanas, handkerchiefs or do-rags be permitted for either boys or girls.

■ **Jewelry**

Girls may wear small post or small hoop earrings. Boys shall not wear earrings. Jewelry items should be modest in size and appearance and must be appropriate for an educational environment.

■ **Makeup and Nail Polish**

Girls may wear nail polish in a single color for all fingers of both hands, in clear or pale pink. Sixth, seventh and eighth grade girls ONLY may wear lightly-applied mascara (brown or black), blush (pale neutral or pale pink), and lip gloss (clear or pale pink). Boys shall not wear makeup or nail polish.

■ **Body Art**

At no time shall tattoos of any kind be allowed on the face, hands, arms legs, or any other exposed skin. Exposed body parts shall not be pierced, except as allowed for girls' earrings (see the *Jewelry* bullet above).

Dress-of-Choice Day

At the discretion of the HOS and/or Dean of Students, a Dress-of-Choice day may be occasionally allowed. Clothes worn by all students during Dress-of-Choice days shall be modest, in good condition, and neat in appearance. Students are not allowed to wear clothing that contains wording or images that could be interpreted as racial, vulgar or offensive in any way. Revealing clothes are not acceptable (i.e. tank tops, midriffs, sleeveless, etc.).

Students not adhering to Dress of Choice guidelines will be sent to the office and parents will need to bring approved uniform items to school for their child to change into. Students will not be allowed to attend class until clothing has been changed.

Exceptions

Temporary exceptions to the clothing requirements of this policy may be granted by the HOS and/or Dean of Students or hardship, as an individual reward, or as part of a school spirit day. Upon request, reasonable accommodations in the uniform dress standard shall be made by the HOS and/or Dean of Students for students with disabilities or religious beliefs which conflict with the policy.

Organizational uniforms such as Cub Scout, Brownie, Boy Scout, and Girl Scout uniforms may be worn on meeting days so long as any article of clothing not a part of the organization uniform is a part of the American Academy Uniform (e.g. Cub Scout shirts may be worn with Uniform pants).

Violations

Students determined to be in violation of this *Uniform Policy* will need to make immediate arrangements in order to remain in school that day. If necessary, parents will be called to bring the appropriate *Uniform* item/s to school. The student may not be allowed to return to class until appropriately attired. There may be other consequences as laid out in the American Academy Discipline Policy or at the discretion of the HOS and/or Dean of Students.

POLICY HISTORY

- Original:* approved by the BOD on February 25, 2005
- Revision 1:* approved by the BOD on April 18, 2005
- Revision 2:* approved by the BOD on June 20, 2005
- Revision 3:* approved by the BOD on March 6, 2006
- Revision 4:* approved by the BOD on April 3, 2006
- Revision 5:* approved by the BOD on March 21, 2007
- Revision 6:* approved by the BOD on June 24, 2009
- Revision 7:* approved by the BOD on September 17, 2009
- Revision 8:* approved by the BOD on April 15, 2010

SUMMARY OF REVISION 1

Policy cleaned up and compacted

SUMMARY OF REVISION 2

Addition allowing indistinguishable articles from non-approved vendors

SUMMARY OF REVISION 3

Reduction to one vendor due to parent and staff feedback

SUMMARY OF REVISION 4

Minor clarifications to revision 3

SUMMARY OF REVISION 5

Addition of hooded and ¼ zip sweatshirt options and clarifications on shoes

SUMMARY OF REVISION 6

Clarifications on shoes and socks; addition of stretch twill pants and middle school girls' skirt and blouse.

SUMMARY OF REVISION 7

Minor clarifications; addition of gray as an acceptable logo color.

SUMMARY OF REVISION 8

Reference to Dean of Students.