



AMERICAN ACADEMY  
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## American Academy Student Uniform Policy

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*This policy was modified and approved by the American Academy Board of Directors on December 14, 2011.*

### 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. **All uniform tops (including sweaters, vests, sweatshirts and jackets) must have the school logo.**

### 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 stretch twill 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
- 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
- Crew neck, hooded, or zip sweatshirt in red or navy

#### ■ GIRLS: additional options for grades 6-8

- Navy fleece vest
- Navy fleece jacket
- 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 (must be no less than 4 inches above the knee)
- 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
- 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 zip sweatshirt in red or navy

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

- Navy fleece vest Navy fleece jacket 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 6<sup>th</sup> graders may still be growing out of their navy items from 5<sup>th</sup> grade.*

## **Uniform Items Selected by the Student**

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

Socks must be worn at all times. 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. For K-5, only navy leggings from Dennis Uniform are permitted. Middle School girls may wear white leggings from Dennis Uniform.

### ■ **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 reasonably coordinate with their student uniform including headbands, scrunchies, rubber bands, ribbons, bows and small barrettes. Semi-permanent hair accessories such as "feathers", tinsel, hair extensions, etc. are not allowed.

### ■ **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, Flip-Flops, 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; no glitter), and no more than one inch in height at the heel. 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. 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, grey, or white. The body of the shoe must be in good repair. They must also be free of characters, beads, bangles and glitter.

Brand-specific artwork such as the Adidas stripes, the Nike swoosh, etc. are acceptable in black, brown, navy, grey, red, or white (if there is a logo on the shoe in another color it is ok as long as it is smaller than a quarter). Color patterns such as checkered are not allowed.

Laces, bands or straps must be black, brown, navy, grey, or white and free of any decoration. Shoes with wheels in the bottoms 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**

Boots of any style are not allowed with the exception of snow boots for recess and travel to and from school in inclement weather. Snow 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.

### **Personalization of the Uniform**

Personalization of last names will be authorized, at parent/student expense, on hooded sweatshirts and may only be performed by the preferred vendor of the school to ensure consistency in appearance (font style, size, color, placement, etc). Any item that is personalized without school approval, or by a vendor other than the one preferred by the school, will be considered in violation of this policy and will be disallowed to be worn at the school.

### **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. Hair for boys and girls should be neat, clean, and have a 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. Sillybandz or other rubber bracelets are not allowed.

■ **Makeup**

Sixth, seventh and eighth grade girls may wear lightly-applied mascara (brown or black), blush (pale neutral or pale pink), and lip gloss (clear or pale pink).

**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. All clothing should be free of holes or tears, even if by design. Students are not allowed to wear clothing that contains wording or images that could be interpreted as racial, vulgar or offensive in any way. Tops must be modest in style, having sleeves that cover the shoulder, a shallow neckline and enough length to completely cover the stomach (i.e. tank tops, sleeveless shirts, cropped t-shirts, and deep v-neck t-shirts are not acceptable). Bottoms must also be modest in style; skirts and shorts legs must be long enough to cover the upper thighs and waistlines must be fitted (i.e. "Daisy Dukes," short shorts and saggy pants are not acceptable). For safety reasons, sandals, flip-flops and open-toed shoes are not acceptable footwear on any day.

All regular student grooming policies regarding hair, hats, jewelry, make-up and nail polish and body art also apply on Dress of Choice Days.

Students not adhering to Dress of Choice guidelines will face the consequences described in the AA Consequence Matrix.

**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, allergies, religious beliefs, etc, which conflict with the policy.

The HOS and/or designee may ban items from the School Uniform as circumstances arise.

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 face the consequences described in the AA Consequence Matrix.

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**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, 2009
- Revision 9*: approved by the BOD on November 16, 2010
- Revision 10*: approved by the BOD on April 23, 2011
- Revision 11*: approved by the BOD on October 13, 2011
- Revision 12*: approved by the BOD on December 14, 2011

**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.

**SUMMARY OF REVISION 9**

Shoe rules clarified; Dress of Choice rules clarified.

**SUMMARY OF REVISION 10**

Rules for accessories clarified; Shoe rules clarified.

**SUMMARY OF REVISION 11**

White leggings added for middle school.

**SUMMARY OF REVISION 12**

Addition of personalization option.