

Uniform and Dress Code

The Academy has a primary objective of developing a "community of learners," dedicated to the highest standards of academics and deportment. As such, a distinctive uniform is a unifying factor within our school community. It is also a visible signature of our school to the larger community, an indicator of our unity and of our pride of purpose. This is one of the most important functions of a uniform: it identifies its wearer as part of a distinctive group with a distinctive purpose. It is a reminder to its wearer of that purpose and of one's responsibility to that group. Our school is also committed to the development of individual personality and character-- not through the external 'expressions' of dress and appearance, which can easily be purchased or affected, and which can quickly divide students through the power of snap judgments and prejudices—but through personal qualities, virtues, quirks and traits. It seems countercultural to assert this in our age, but the Academy holds that the school uniform is an essential condition for cultivating genuine individuality in the school community. It is not this or that particular element of the uniform that "matters" more than any of the others; rather, the uniform as a whole is what matters.

While students are responsible for their clothing and appearance, it is the parents who are responsible for providing the conditions required for meeting the standard, e.g. haircuts, proper shoes, shirts, skirts and pants that fit properly, etc. Parents are urged to understand the uniform requirements below, and to ensure that their children go to school each day in the right attire, from head to toe. It is an uncomfortable experience for a child to be corrected for a uniform violation, and repeated uniform issues can become an enormous distraction for students.

The uniform is the basis of a dress code with a "professional," business-like standard. Our students should dress their best, look their best, and do their best. All clothing must be clean, neat, reasonably pressed, and in properly fitting condition. If a child is deemed to be wearing inappropriate attire, the parent will be notified and a change of clothing may be required for attendance that day. If in doubt about the appropriateness of an article of clothing, check with the school office before purchasing. Decisions about the appropriateness of apparel may be referred to the Dean of Students whose judgment will be final. The school will make specific exceptions to the dress code as required by particular religious customs; parents should address specific concerns to the Dean of Students before the second week of school.

Other than the dress code requirements for school, there are special requirements for periodic, special events throughout the year, such as the "semi-formal" dress code for concert participation and the all-school awards ceremony. Please see page 47 of the Handbook for an exact definition of how the Academy defines "semi-formal" attire.

Dennis Uniform or Anton Uniform sets the standard for the kind of pants, shorts, and shirts that are required, but such clothing may be purchased elsewhere. However, both the uniform skirts and sweaters must be purchased at Dennis Uniform or Anton Uniform. If the cost of the uniform presents a financial hardship for your family, please contact the school office for assistance.

Students must stay in uniform whenever they are on campus (including the parking lot) during a school day. This means arriving on campus *fully* in uniform and leaving campus *fully* in uniform (correct shoes, shirts tucked in, etc.). Students may only change out of uniform after school with teacher/coach permission to participate in an approved curricular or extracurricular activity that requires an immediate change in dress.

Boys' Uniform and Dress Code

Boys' Pants: Khaki or Black dress slacks that reach to the shoe but are not dragging on the ground. (Not blue jeans or dungarees. No patch pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams.) No oversized, super-baggy pants will be permitted. Slacks should be worn at the waist (and no boxers or undergarments may be visible – including at sports practices and games). The slacks should have belt loops and a solid, dark belt should be used. Black pants or shorts should not be worn with a black shirt.

Boys' Shorts: During hot weather months (August to October 31st and Spring Break to May) khaki or black walking shorts, with a belt, may be worn. Shorts should go to just above the knee but not below, and should not be excessively tight or loose-fitting. Shorts should be worn at the waist (and no boxers or undergarments may be visible – including at sports practices and games)

Boys' Shirts: For all middle school boys, solid crimson collared, knit polo shirts (two- or three-button, with or without a breast pocket--no logos of any kind, except the Academy logo). For all high school boys, solid white or black collared, knit polo shirts (two- or three-button, with or without a breast pocket--no logos of any kind, except the Academy logo). High school boys may also wear a white oxford button-down dress shirts, short- or long-sleeved. The oxford dress shirt must be properly buttoned.. *Shirts must always be tucked in, and shirttails must be long enough to stay tucked in.* Male High School athletes may wear a designated Trivium athletic dept. polo shirt on game day.

Boys' Footwear: Middle school boys may wear black, solid-colored athletic shoes with black laces or dress shoes that match the description of the high school boy's shoes. Athletic shoes must be non-marking and gym appropriate. High School boys must wear black, solid-colored, low-heeled, low-soled dress shoes with dark laces or loafers that must be able to take a shine. Shoes should always be worn with solid-colored black socks. In all grades no high-top shoes, boots, sandals or skateboard shoes should be worn. Athletic shoes will be permitted during official school athletic activities. Black ankle socks must be visible above the entire shoe; knee socks are not permitted with shorts.

Boys' Hair: Hair should be neatly trimmed and combed; no gel-mussed or long spiked hair-styles. Hair must be well off the top of the shirt collar, and it may not cover the ears. In a normal sitting position, hair should not overlap the shirt collar. Hair should not be so long as to hang far below the eyes if combed forward nor long enough to bring into a ponytail. Crew cuts are permitted, but the head must not appear shaved, nor scalp be visible. No mohawks or rat's tails or braids. No hairnets or bandanas. No dyed or bleached hair. No shaved heads. Sideburns may not descend below the earlobe. No facial hair: students must be clean-shaven.

Boys' Jewelry: No nose-rings, earrings, or other body-piercing jewelry are permitted for boys. No wrist bracelets, anklets, or necklaces are permitted. A total of one watch and one ring are permissible. Both must be tasteful. Jewelry should not be distracting or dangerous. A tasteful, simple necklace may be worn inside the shirt and should not be visible.

Boys' Headwear: Hats and sunglasses will not be permitted indoors and must be stored in student lockers during the school day.

Sweaters and Boys' Jackets: Uniform sweaters and fleeces are available through Dennis Uniform and Anton Uniform. These may be worn inside and outside the classroom. They must be clean and free of tears. A polo shirt or oxford shirt must be worn under the sweatshirt and must be tucked in, and a belt must still be worn.

Non-Uniform jackets, sweaters, and sweatshirts may be worn to school for warmth but must be free of prominent logos and advertisements. However, these garments may not be worn into or brought into the classrooms; they must be stored in lockers during and between classes, other than during the lunch period. Trivium spirit wear sweaters and jackets may only be worn on designated spirit days.

No oversized or super-baggy clothing will be permitted. This includes sweatshirts. If a student owns a conspicuously oversized Academy sweatshirt, he may not wear it into the classroom.

No tattoos, temporary or permanent. This prohibition includes pen and ink drawings on the skin.

Girls' Uniforms and Dress Code

Girls' Skirt: a plaid (all prep grades) or grey (high school only) Trivium Academy uniform skirt is available at Dennis Uniform or Anton Uniform. The skirt hem may be no higher than just above the knee, both in front and in back. Skirt hem should be within two inches of the ground when properly adjusted at the waist and kneeling on a level surface, and may be longer if desired. Skirts must be worn at the waist.

Girls' Shorts: During hot-weather months (August to October 31st and Spring Break to May), Khaki or black walking shorts may be worn. Shorts should go to just above the knee, but not below, and should not be tight-fitting. A black belt must be worn with shorts that have belt loops. Shorts must be worn at the waist.

Girls' Slacks: During cold-weather months (Fall Break to Spring Break), khaki or black slacks, with a black belt, may be worn. Slacks should reach to the shoe but not drag on the ground. No oversized, super-baggy pants will be permitted, nor should they be excessively tight. Slacks should be worn at the waist. The slacks should have belt loops and a solid, black belt should be used.

Girls' Shirts: For all middle school girls, solid crimson collared, knit polo shirts (two- or three-button, with or without a breast pocket--no logos of any kind, except the Academy logo). For all high school girls, solid white or black collared, knit polo shirts (two- or three-button, with or without a breast pocket--no logos of any kind, except the Academy logo). High school girls may also wear a white oxford button-down dress shirts, short- or long-sleeved. The oxford dress shirt must be properly buttoned.. *Shirts must always be tucked in, and shirrtails must be long enough to stay tucked in.* Female High School athletes may wear a designated Trivium athletic dept. polo shirt on game day.

Girls' Footwear: Middle school girls may wear black, solid-colored athletic shoes with black laces or dress shoes that match the description of the high school girls shoes. Athletic shoes must be non-marking and gym appropriate. High school girls must wear low-heeled (1.5" – 2"), low-soled or flat, dark, solid-colored leather loafers or dress shoes that can take a shine. No open-toed or open-heeled shoes or sandals. Sneakers, tennis or jogging shoes will be permitted only during

official school athletic activities. Girls should wear solid color white or black nylons, tights, or socks. Ankle socks may be worn, but they must be visible above the entire shoe. Socks should not come above the knees. No ankle bracelets allowed. No leggings are allowed.

Girls' Jewelry: Girls may wear *one* pair of short earrings only on the ear lobes. "Short" means that the earrings should not hang more than ½ inch below the ear lobe. Large hoops or other dangling or distracting earrings are not permitted. Loops are not to be larger than the size of a nickel. No body-piercing jewelry except traditionally-located earrings will be permitted. One simple ring on each hand is permitted. One wrist bracelet, one watch, and one simple necklace are permissible. No chokers, no beaded necklaces (colored or otherwise), no leather necklaces, no shells, no large or elaborate chain-link, and no large or elaborate pendants (larger than an inch in length, width or diameter) may be worn.

Girls' Makeup: Makeup is permitted and should be applied tastefully and in moderation. Heavily lined eyes or gaudy lipstick, glittered or white-powdered faces will not be permitted. Fingernails should not be excessively long or painted garishly. Fingernails may only be painted in shades of red, pink and natural skin tones. Tasteful French manicures are acceptable.

Girls' Hair: Hair should be neatly combed or styled. No shaved heads. Tasteful bows, barrettes, headbands, and "scrunchies" are permissible. Hair should not be arranged or colored so as to draw undue attention to the student. Hair must be natural looking and conservative in its color (no bleaching or unnatural streaking/highlighting, no deep/bright reds or oranges, no artificial jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors). Any artificial changes in hair color during the school year are unacceptable.

Women's Headwear: Hats, bandanas, and sunglasses will not be permitted indoors and must be stored in student lockers.

Women's Jackets: Uniform sweaters and fleeces are available through Dennis Uniform and Anton Uniform. These may be worn inside and outside the classroom. They must be clean and free of tears. A polo shirt or oxford shirt must be worn under the sweatshirt and must be tucked in, and a belt must still be worn.

Non-Uniform jackets, sweaters, and sweatshirts may be worn to school for warmth but must be free of prominent logos and advertisements. However, these garments may not be worn into or brought into the classrooms; they must be stored in lockers during and between classes, other than during the lunch period. Trivium spirit wear sweaters and jackets may only be worn on designated spirit days.

No oversized or super-baggy clothing will be permitted. This includes sweatshirts. If a student owns a conspicuously oversized Academy sweatshirt, he may not wear it into the classroom.

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Non-uniform Dress Code for Special Events

Athletic Practice and Outdoor Field Day Dress Code

Just as the Academy provides guidelines for dress code in the classroom, it is important to project the image of professionalism in our athletic attire as well.

All shirts worn for athletic practices and field day should be modest, loose fitting, in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc), should be worn either tucked in or well over the waist of the pants/shorts if not tucked in. No midriffs may be shown. T-shirts are preferred—no tank tops, camisoles, or sports bras may be worn as outer-garments. Sleeveless shirts may be worn if modest.

Pants/shorts should be modest, in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.) Pants should be worn at the waist and should be no shorter than mid-thigh, and no-longer than just below the knee. No short-shorts or long baggy shorts may be worn. No boxers or undergarments may be visible. No yoga pants

Attire should be free of inappropriate messages; sports team logos (e.g., Diamondbacks, Notre Dame), and apparel brand names (e.g., Adidas, Abercrombie) are acceptable, provided they do not make inappropriate allusions. These guidelines also apply to sweatshirts and jackets that students may wear. Footwear should be athletic in nature: no sandals, open-toed, or platform shoes. Hats and sunscreen may be appropriate, if the students will be in the sun. Hat styles should follow the same guidelines as above.

Semi-formal Events Dress Code

There are specific, semi-formal dress requirements for special events, including periodic fine arts concerts and the end-of-year ceremonies (such as commencement and graduation).

Concert dress is, for boys and girls, white and black. Boys wear white collared dress shirts with black slacks and black dress shoes. Girls wear a white blouse with a black skirt or black dress slacks and black dress shoes (open-toed shoes and reasonable heels are permitted).

The **semi-formal dress code for boys** is: dress slacks (no jeans or patched pocket pants), a collared dress shirt, dark socks, dress shoes (no sneakers or sandals). For commencement, graduating 8th graders must wear a tie. No dyed hair or hats. Hair should be trimmed appropriately.

The **semi-formal dress code for girls** is as follows: modest-length skirts or dresses with hems that approach the knee, or appropriately fitting dress slacks; bare midriffs are not acceptable. Modestly-cut sleeveless tops/dresses are allowed; ladies may not wear strapless, spaghetti-strap, or tank tops. Girls should wear dress shoes. No flip-flops. No dyed hair.