

# Uniforms

## Preamble

This policy is intended to:

- Provide the rationale supporting mandatory school uniforms.
- Describe the uniform and grooming requirements for pupils at Alberta Classical Academy schools.

## Rationale

The Calgary Classical Academy is a distinctive community, bound together by a shared goal of seeking moral and intellectual excellence in a spirit of friendship.

Our school uniform is a visible expression of this ideal: our students are part of a united community of learners, whose purpose transcends differences in socio-economic status, ethnic, religious, or racial background. In wearing their uniforms, students experience a sense of pride and belonging, and are reminded of their obligation to represent their school community well.

School uniforms serve several other important functions. They foster an environment that is conducive to learning by removing potential sources of distraction, anxiety, and peer competition. A uniform, properly fitted, worn and cared for, demonstrates respect for others and for oneself. It also helps to develop the student's sense of propriety — that is, appropriateness in inward feeling and outward conduct, including through the observance of proper rituals and customs. By cultivating good outward habits in dress and decorum, students begin to internalize these habits. Finally, uniforms can encourage students in the development of an authentic personality, defined not through artificial expressions of individuality, but through the cultivation of inner virtues, talents, interests, habits, and traits that comprise genuine character.

## K-4 Girls Uniform

Girls must wear a collared shirt, whether a polo or button-up shirt, with either short or long sleeves. Approved colours are light blue, white, and light yellow.

This shall be accompanied by either a) a classic blue tartan jumper/pinafore, or b) navy blue trousers with a cardigan, sweater or sweater vest in grey, light yellow, or navy.

All uniforms shall be worn with plain black, close-toed shoes. Skirts or dresses may be worn with either leggings or knit tights (grey, white, or navy), or knee socks or fold-over socks (grey, white, or navy) with modesty shorts worn underneath.



### “Summer” Uniform

During the summer and summer-adjacent months of August, September, May, and June, girls in grades K-4 have the option of wearing a modified uniform consisting of a navy skirt/skort with a collared shirt in light blue, white, or light yellow. This must be worn with a choice of white, grey, or navy leggings or tights, or knee socks or fold-over socks with modesty shorts worn underneath.

### Formal Uniform

During weekly assemblies, concerts, and special events including picture day, a formal uniform must be worn consisting of:

- White collared shirt
- Classic blue tartan jumper/pinafore
- Light yellow cardigan with school crest
- White, grey, or navy tights or knee-socks
- Plain black closed-toed shoes

### 5-8 Girls Uniform

Girls must wear a collared shirt, whether a polo or button-up shirt, with either short or long sleeves. Approved colours are white, light blue, and light yellow.

This is to be worn with a navy blue blazer and cross tie.

Girls may wear either a classic navy tartan skirt/skort, hitting at the top of the knee, or dark grey trousers.

All uniforms shall be worn with black, close-toed polishable shoes (leather or imitation leather). Low block heels (<1.5 inches) are permitted. Skirts may be worn with tights, knee socks, or fold-over socks in grey, white, or navy. If wearing socks, modesty shorts must be worn underneath.

Girls may also wear a sweater vest or sweater in navy, light yellow, or grey.



### Gym Uniform

Girls in grades 5 and above must purchase a P.E. uniform consisting of crested sweat pants, zip-up sweater, shorts, and t-shirt. These items should be purchased through an approved vendor.

### Formal Uniform

During weekly assemblies, concerts, and special events including picture day, a formal uniform must be worn consisting of:

- White collared button-up shirt
- Classic blue tartan skirt or skort
- Cross-tie
- Blazer
- White, grey, or navy tights or knee-socks
- Polishable black closed-toed shoes

### Additional notes — girls' uniforms

Uniform items must be purchased through an approved vendor, with the exception of socks, hosiery, shoes, belts, and plain white button-up shirts, which may be purchased through an alternative vendor if preferred. All uniform items should be in good repair (no holes, obvious stains, etc.), appropriately fitted, and neatly pressed. Shirts and blouses should be worn tucked in. No midriffs or undergarments may be shown.

Skirts & Jumpers: skirts and skorts should be worn at the waist. The hem of skirts and jumpers should fall just above the knee. When wearing skirts or dresses, tights, leggings, or modesty shorts should be worn underneath.

Pants: Girls' dress slacks should be worn at the waist, and must reach to the ankle, but should not drag on the ground. Leggings may not be worn as pants, but may be worn with skirts, and should likewise reach to the ankle. Undergarments must not be visible.

Grooming: Hair should be neatly brushed or styled. Girls may wear small bows, barrettes, headbands, or hair ties. Students may wear headscarves as required by a religious practice. Hair must be natural-looking and conservative in its color and cut (e.g. no unnatural streaking, colors, or extreme styles). K-8 students may not wear make-up or nail polish. Girls may wear one necklace, bracelet, and pair of earrings at a time, provided the jewelry is conservative and minimalist (e.g. stud earrings rather than dangling or hoop earrings, discrete pendant necklaces, friendship bracelets, or similar). Simple digital or analog watches may be worn, but internet-connected devices are prohibited. No other piercings, body art, or temporary tattoos should be worn to school.

## K-4 Boys Uniform

Boys must wear a collared shirt, whether as a polo or button-up shirt, either short or long-sleeved. Approved colours are light blue and white.

This shall be accompanied by navy blue trousers, as well as a sweater, cardigan or sweater vest in either grey, light yellow, or navy.

Uniforms shall be worn with plain black shoes with grey/black socks.



## Summer Uniform

During the summer and summer-adjacent months of August, September, May, and June, boys may wear navy shorts in lieu of trousers.

## Formal Uniform

During weekly assemblies, concerts, and special events including picture day, a formal uniform must be worn consisting of:

- White collared shirt
- Navy cardigan or sweater vest with school crest
- Navy trousers
- Grey or black socks
- Plain black closed-toed shoes

## 5-8 Boys Uniform

Boys must wear a button-up collared shirt, which may be either short- or long-sleeved. Approved colours are white and light blue.

This is to be worn with a navy blazer, a tie in classic navy tartan, and grey trousers.

Uniforms shall be worn with polishable black shoes (leather or leather-like) with grey/black socks.

Boys may also wear a sweater vest or sweater in navy or dark grey.

## Gym Uniform

Boys in grades 5 and above must purchase a P.E. uniform consisting of sweat pants, zip-up sweater, shorts, and t-shirt, from an approved vendor.

## Summer Uniform

During the months of August, September, May, and June, boys may wear grey shorts in lieu of trousers, and may wear collared polo shirts in white or light blue.

## Formal Uniform



During weekly assemblies, concerts, and special events including picture day, a formal uniform must be worn consisting of:

- White collared shirt
- Tie
- Blazer
- Grey trousers
- Grey or black socks
- Polishable black shoes

### Additional notes – boys uniforms

Uniform items must be purchased through an approved vendor, with the exception of socks, shoes, belts, and white button-up shirts, which may be purchased through an alternative vendor if preferred.

All uniform items should be in good repair (no holes, obvious stains, etc.), appropriately fitted, and neatly pressed. Shirts should be worn tucked in.

Pants: All dress slacks must reach to the shoe but should not drag on the ground. No undergarments should be visible. Pants may be worn with a black leather belt.

Shorts: 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. Undergarments should not be visible.

Grooming for Boys: Hair should be neatly combed or styled and conservative in its color and cut (no unnatural colors, extreme styles or excessive length). No jewelry may be worn except a simple analog or digital watch (no internet-connected devices), or as required by a religious practice.

### Enforcement

Students are expected to comply with uniform requirements at all times while on school property. Exceptions will be provided for concerts and performances, co-curricular or extra-curricular activities where a change in dress is required, semi-formal events, casual days, and other explicitly approved occasions.

Should a student fail to adhere to the uniform policy, as determined by the Principal or Associate Principal, their parent/guardian will be notified, and a change in clothing may be required. As this can interfere with learning and create discomfort for the student, parents are expected to familiarize themselves with the uniform and grooming policies, and ensure that their children arrive at school in the proper attire each day.

Parents are expected to provide their children with the appropriate uniform attire.

Families that require financial assistance in purchasing appropriate uniform items should advise the school administration at least two months prior to the start of the school year.

School administration shall have ultimate authority in determining whether a uniform is being worn appropriately and the dress code adhered to, and decisions will be final.

Students may be subject to a warning, demerit, detention, and possible removal from the classroom if not in compliance with the school dress code.

### *Amending this Policy*

As the school uniforms are an extension of the brand identity of the Alberta Classical Academy, changes or amendments to this policy require Board approval.

School leadership may elaborate upon and refine the particulars of this policy without requiring approval of the Board.

The school leadership may, via the superintendent, submit a request to the Board to change or amend the school uniform policy with supporting rationale.

*Adopted: July 18 2023*