

## UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE POLICY

*approved December 4, 2024*

### Introduction

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At Dallas International School (DIS), our Uniform and Dress Code Policy reflects our identity as a leading international, private educational institution. Wearing the school uniform fosters a sense of belonging, promotes school pride, and ensures equity among all students. Our uniform is a visual representation of values we uphold at DIS, including respect, discipline, and unity. By adhering to the uniform policy, students contribute to a positive and focused learning environment, free from distractions.

Our philosophy emphasizes that a uniform is not merely clothing; it is a symbol of the collective identity and shared values of our school community. It also helps to eliminate economic disparities, creating a more inclusive atmosphere where students are judged by their character and achievements rather than their attire.

### Definitions

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#### Uniform

The official school uniform at DIS includes specific garments that are required to be worn by all students during school hours and at certain school events. The uniform may include clothing items with the current DIS logo, and items with previous logos are grandfathered in and permitted.

#### Dress Code

The dress code outlines acceptable clothing and appearance standards for students, including guidelines for days when the uniform is not required. The dress code ensures that students present themselves in a manner that is appropriate, respectful, and conducive to the learning environment.

#### Spirit Day

On Spirit Days, which typically occur on Fridays, students are allowed to wear a DIS-branded t-shirt (e.g., Country of the Year shirt, athletics shirts, etc.) with their regular uniform bottoms. This day is an opportunity to show school spirit while still adhering to the overall uniform policy.

- Students on the Waterview Campus are permitted to wear jeans on Spirit Days. Jeans must comply with the dress code requirements.

#### Free Dress Day

On Free Dress Days, students may wear clothing of their choice, but it must adhere to the school's dress code. This means that even on non-uniform days, students are expected to dress appropriately and respectfully.

#### PHE Uniform

For Physical and Health Education (PHE) classes, students are required to wear a specific uniform:

- The school-issued PHE shirt or a DIS athletics shirt must be worn.
- Shorts must be the official DIS-issued PHE shorts. Leggings may be worn under shorts.

## Guidelines

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### Uniform

Students are expected to wear the full, correct uniform during school hours and at designated school events. The following additional guidelines apply to the uniform:

- Leggings may be worn under the uniform skirt or dress. Leggings must be navy, white, red, or black and free of patterns or logos.
- Skirts must be at knee length or longer. Modesty shorts must be worn under skirts.
- Shoes must be entirely black or entirely white, with no additional colors or patterns.
- Only DIS-branded hoodies, jackets, and sweaters are permitted.

### Dress Code

The following guidelines must be followed at all times, including when students are not in their formal school uniform:

- No shirts with writing or logos, other than DIS-branded items, are permitted.
- Ripped, frayed, or torn pants are not allowed.
- Shorts must be no shorter than mid-thigh.

### Spirit Days and Free Dress

Spirit Days and Free Dress days are in place to enhance school spirit, promote a sense of community, and reward students for their collective adherence to the Uniform and Dress Code Policy.

- The school may, on occasion, suspend Spirit and/or Free Dress Days for special events.
- Students who are found to be repeatedly in violation of the Uniform and Dress Code Policy may lose Spirit Day and/or Free Dress privileges.

## Uniform Vendors

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To maintain consistency and quality, school uniforms must be purchased from the following authorized vendors:

- **Tommy Hilfiger.** This vendor offers a selection of DIS-approved uniform items.
- **Lands' End.** This vendor provides additional options for DIS-approved uniforms.

## Uniform and Dress Code Violations

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### Primary School (All Grades)

- Uniform and dress code violations will be reported through a Google Form accessible to all teachers. This form serves as a log to track student compliance.
- The Deputy Head of Primary (DHOP) and/or Head of Primary (HOP) will contact families directly if there is a violation.
- The student will stay in class but will be required to step out to change into the correct school uniform or meet the dress code.

### Elementary School (1<sup>st</sup>-5<sup>th</sup>)

In addition to filing a report, the teacher will address the issue with the student in a non-punitive, informative manner, emphasizing the importance of compliance.

### Secondary School (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>)

- Students are not permitted to enter the campus or class if they are out of uniform.
- Students who arrive out of uniform will be sent to the Dean of Students to resolve the issue before they can participate in school activities.

### Consequences

To maintain the integrity of the Uniform and Dress Code Policy, the following consequences are in place for non-compliance:

- **First Occurrence.** The incident will be documented, and the family will be notified. The family must take corrective action the same day. This serves as a warning.
- **Subsequent Occurrences.** The family must take corrective action the same day. In Secondary School, the student will receive an infraction for each subsequent violation. It is important to note that five infractions (for any rule violation) will result in an in-school suspension (ISS).

### Policy Review and Publication

This policy is reviewed regularly through collaborative planning, and final versions for publication are sent to and formally approved by the DIS Executive Leadership Team. The latest version of this policy is made available to the DIS community through the MyDIS platform.