



Arlington Archers: New Family Orientation

Module 2: Academy Dress Code



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The Uniforms

At Great Hearts schools, the student uniform is an essential part of who we are and what we do. The uniform serves to unify our students as one community of learners, irrespective of our diverse backgrounds. The uniform also signifies to the larger community our common purpose and identity as schools in pursuit of the true, the good, and the beautiful. Finally, the uniform frees our students to pursue their intellectual and moral development as individuals, without the distractions of fad and fashion.



Parent Responsibility

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, and mending or replacing worn and torn items. Parents are urged to understand the [dress code](#) 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 dress code violation, and repeated issues can become an enormous distraction for students. Parents who are struggling to meet a [dress code](#) requirement are encouraged to reach out to administration for guidance.



Student Responsibility

Students are responsible for wearing their uniform with care and pride, and for maintaining good grooming habits throughout the school day. Tucking in and buttoning shirts, tying shoes, and keeping sleeves and socks properly adjusted are important opportunities for students to exhibit pride in their membership in the Academy. Personal grooming is another important component of the [dress code](#). Students should arrive to school with clean hands, face, hair, and uniform. Hair should be combed and neatly styled. Throughout the school day, students should remember to wash their face and hands and to refrain from marking themselves with ink and paint. Being an Arlington Archer should look and feel special!



Kinder through 5th Grade Girls Uniform

Required:

- Short-sleeve or long-sleeve polo
Color: white or light blue
- Navy pants or shorts
- Plaid skirt
- **K-2 Only:** Plaid jumper & Peter Pan collared shirt



Optional:

- Navy V-neck sweater—button-up or pull-over
- Navy quarter-zip sweatshirt or full zip jacket

Please see [our vendors](#) for a complete list of options.

- *It is encouraged to label all uniform items.*

Kinder through 5th Grade Boys Uniform

Required:

- Short-sleeve polo or long-sleeve polo
Color: white or light blue
- Navy pants or shorts



Optional:

- Navy V-neck sweater—button-up or pull-over
- Navy quarter-zip sweatshirt or full zip jacket



Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.



- It is encouraged to label all uniform items.

Approved Shoes for K-5



Students may wear either Keds School Days shoes (white and navy blue) or any all white or all black athletic shoe.

Students may wear solid white, black, or navy socks that are free of logos. Socks must be visible; no-show socks are not permitted. *Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines for more details](#). (K-2 may wear velcro).*

NOTE: Families are advised to avoid the K-Swiss all-white shoe because it is very difficult to keep laces tied and they do not perform well for PE/athletics.

6th-8th Grade Boys Uniform

Required:

- Short-sleeve or long-sleeve polo
Color: white or Navy
- Khaki pants or shorts



Optional:

- Navy V-neck pullover sweater or sweater vest
- Navy quarter-zip sweatshirt or full zip jacket



Footwear: Solid-colored dark brown or black dress shoes with matching soles. Socks worn with pants must be black, navy, or brown, solid-colored, and free of logos or patterns. No-show socks are not permitted.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.

- *It is encouraged to label all uniform items.*

6th-8th Grade Girls Uniform

Required:

- Short-sleeve polo or long-sleeve polo
Color: white or Navy
- Khaki pants or khaki shorts
- Plaid Skirt

Optional:

- Navy V-neck pullover sweater or sweater vest
- Navy quarter-zip sweatshirt or full zip jacket



Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.

- *It is encouraged to label all uniform items.*

6th-8th Grade Girls Footwear

Shoes: Solid-colored dark brown or black dress shoes (slip-on or lace-up) which are low-heeled with matching soles. Non-athletic saddle shoes (see below) are also permitted. Dress shoes may have a simple ornament (bow, buckle) of the same color of the shoe, or of simple silver or gold color.



Socks: Nylons or tights must be non-patterned and solid black or navy in color; socks must be solid navy, white, or black in color, and free of logos or patterns. No-show socks are not permitted.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.

Pants/Shorts must have belt loops and a solid black or brown leather (or synthetic leather) belt (at least 3/4" wide) must be worn. (Kindergarten is exempt from the requirement for belt loops and a belt). No fabric or woven belts are permitted. Shirts must be tucked in. No jeans, Dickies, cargo pants, dungarees, extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams will be permitted. Pants/Shorts should not be excessively tight or loose fitting. Pants/Shorts should be worn at the waist and no undergarments may be visible. Pants must reach to the shoe but should not drag on the ground.



6th-8th Grade PE Uniforms

PE Uniforms: 6th-8th grade students will dress for PE. Students will wear a navy athletic short and grey athletic shirt purchased through our vendors.

Please see [our vendors](#) for a complete list of options.



Shoes: Students must change into a pair of solid black or solid white non-marking athletic shoes for PE.

- *Without the proper attire, a student may not be able to participate in PE.*

Purchasing Information

Great Hearts now has two preferred vendors for our uniforms. Families can choose from either vendor. More information can be found on their websites:

- [Dennis Uniforms](#)
- [Flynn O'Hara](#)

Several items—i.e., pants, shorts, belts, shoes, socks—may be purchased from other vendors (e.g., Target) as long as the items meet the [dress code](#) requirements.



Reducing Costs

Over the years Great Hearts families have worked together to re-sell used uniforms. We will notify Arlington families when our Parent Service Organization launches this program for our new campus.

Families who qualify for free or reduced lunch will receive vouchers for the purchase of uniforms while supplies last. Eligibility is determined based upon the annual Free & Reduced Lunch Application released in July.



Helpful Hints

- Because comfort and function are so important, we recommend that families visit a uniform vendor to try on sizes and styles. If an in-person visit is not possible, please work carefully with the vendor to determine correct sizing.
- Uniform requirements are grade specific. Please, let the uniform vendor know your child's grade before purchasing. This will ensure you have the proper attire.
- Consider purchasing items that give your child room for growth. Hems and buttons can be adjusted, and this will save you money over time.
- Note the difference in fit between *girls* and *junior* sizes when shopping.
- Special lengths and sizes are available. Contact vendors for more information.
- Pants may be purchased from non-vendors so long as the color, fabric and style match the uniform.



Hair

Hair should be neatly combed or styled. Hair must be natural looking in its color (no bleaching or unnatural streaking/highlighting, no artificial jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors), and simple in its cut. Radical changes in hair color are not permitted during the school year. Girls may wear neat bows, barrettes, headbands, and hair ties so long as they coordinate with the uniform. Boys' hair must be above the top of the shirt collar. Accommodations for religious reasons are permitted.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.



Jewelry

Girls may wear small earrings; boys may not wear earrings. Boys and girls are permitted to wear one watch, one ring, one bracelet, and one small necklace; smart watches are not permitted.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.



Grooming

Grooming: Hair and nails should be clean and trimmed. Hands and face should be clean. No ink designs, permanent or temporary, are permitted on the skin. Perfume and cologne are not permitted; when appropriate, deodorant should be worn.

Makeup and nail polish. Students in grades K-5 may not wear makeup or colored nail polish. Girls in grades 6-7 may wear subtle makeup applied in moderation and nail polish in shades of muted pink and skin tones; simple French manicures are acceptable.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.



Outerwear

Official school sweaters as described in the uniform guidelines are the only outerwear allowed to be worn **in the school building**. The uniform sweaters, vest, and quarter-zip/ full-zip sweatshirt may be worn year-round throughout the school day.

Jackets and sweatshirts (including spirit jackets/hoodies with the Great Hearts logo) may be worn during recess and outdoor transitions for warmth, provided they do not detract from the Academy culture. Hats and sunglasses may only be worn at recess. All outerwear, including hats and sunglasses, must remain in the lockers, backpacks, or cubbies when not in use.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.



After School Athletics and Clubs

Physical activity and friendly competition is an important part of Academy life. Performance and enjoyment of athletic events is greatly enhanced by functional attire that reflects the Academy's culture.

Basic guidelines for athletic activity are loose-fitting shirts and bottoms in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.). Shorts should be no shorter than mid-thigh and no-longer than just below the knee. If a player would like to wear spandex or compression pants or shorts, they must be covered by loose fitting athletic shorts. Footwear should be athletic in nature. All athletic attire should be free of logos and messages, with the exception of Great Hearts and sports team logos (e.g., Archers Logo), provided they do not detract from the Academy culture.

Please see the [Dress Code Guidelines](#) for more details.



Semi-Formal Events

Special events in the life of the academy, including dances and end-of-year ceremonies (such as promotion), are signified by semi-formal dress. Specific guidelines for attire for semi-formal events will be communicated as events are scheduled and announced.



Questions?

Thank you for taking the time to learn more about Great Hearts Arlington! While we have endeavored to provide meaningful information about the [Academy Dress Code](#), we recognize that there may be unanswered questions. If there is something you would like us to address, please submit your question to info@greatheartsarlington.org. Go Archers!

In partnership,

The Great Hearts Arlington Team

