

Lower School Dress Policy

Dress Code: General Guidelines

Believing that our outward appearance is a reflection of our heart and mind, Dublin Christian Academy expects parents to exercise good taste and judgment in the dress of their children who are students at DCA. Through our clothing and our hairstyles, we either draw attention to ourselves, or we magnify the Lord. The following dress code applies to all school functions unless otherwise specified.

As a Christian organization, we want our students to reflect a Christian testimony by dressing in a way that is consistent with Biblical principles. Although there is no single style or form of clothing which is Biblical, 1 Timothy 2:9 teaches the principle of modesty, and Matthew 6:25-33 stresses that clothing should not be the emphasis of one's life. As an educational institution, we want to promote an appearance that reflects high standards of academic performance and the importance of education. We do, however, recognize that different types of clothing are appropriate based on the occasion or activity. Therefore, the following guidelines outline the dress code for the many facets of life here at Dublin Christian Academy.

General Dress Policies for Lower School:

1. All clothing is expected to be neat, clean, and wrinkle-free.
2. Clothing size should be appropriate for the size of the student. (No sloppy, oversized, or tight clothing.)
3. **Pants** should fit properly (not oversized, low-riding, or tight, i.e. skinny pants).
4. **Pants** should be hemmed appropriately and should not be frayed, tight, or sagging.
5. All **shirts** must be tucked in.
6. **Coats, hats, zippered vests, fleeces, and any sweatshirts** are considered outdoor wear and are **not** to be worn during class.
7. **Shoes** should be worn at **all** times.
8. Cleated shoes or skates are **not** to be worn in the buildings
9. Any **T-shirt** worn under a uniform shirt must be a plain white shirt with no printing.
10. Any clothing that promotes an anti-Christian philosophy is **not** permitted.
11. Baseball caps and other casual hats are appropriate outside the buildings or at athletic events.

The administration of Dublin Christian Academy reserves the right to determine if dress or appearance is appropriate. Parents will be notified of inappropriate dress or appearance and will be given a description of the steps necessary to fix the problem.

Lower School Boys' Dress

Shirts*

1. **Collared shirts** (Polo and Oxford styles) – any solid color; short or long-sleeved; DCA polos (available seasonally for purchase from the online Stag Swag Store: store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy).
2. **Sweaters, cardigans, and vests** – any solid color; crew neck, V-neck, or vest

***Special Notes:**

1. All **shirt buttons** must be fastened except for the top button.
2. All **shirts** must be neatly tucked in.
3. **Long sleeves** may not be layered underneath short sleeves for school dress.
4. When **sweaters, cardigans, or vests** are worn, a polo, oxford, or turtleneck with a visible collar must be worn underneath.
5. **No** writing, designs, or large manufacturers' logos on shirts.
6. **Shirt collars** should be worn as they are intended. Oxford collars should be buttoned-down, and polo collars should be worn in the traditional flat style.

Pants*

Solid color pants (with belt loops) – khaki, gray, navy, or black

***Special Notes:**

1. Pants must have belt loops and be worn with a belt.
2. Pants may **not** have cargo pockets or carpenter loops.
3. Pants may be pleated front, plain front, or corduroy.
4. Pants **should not** have elastic at the bottom of the leg.
5. Pants should fit neatly and appropriately with **no** sagging.

Shoes* and Socks

1. Sneakers
2. Socks are to be worn.

***Special Notes:**

1. **No** crocs, flip flops, sandals, or light up shoes
2. During the winter, students may wear snow boots to and from school, but they must bring school shoes to change into during the day.
3. Socks and shoes must be worn at all times.
4. Cleated shoes or skates are **not** to be worn in the buildings.

Hair

1. Hair must be neatly combed.
2. Hair must be trimmed (not hanging over the ears), tapered in the back (thinner at the base than on top), and off the collar and ears.
3. Hair worn on the forehead should come **no** lower than one finger width above the eyebrows.
4. Shaved heads (less than 1/4 inch) and shelf cuts are **not** acceptable.
5. Hair may **not** look spiked.
6. Hairstyles should be neat and appear natural in color.
7. The use of dye, streaks, bleach, or other hair coloration is **not permissible** at any time during the school year.

Accessories

1. Boys may **not** wear bracelets, earrings, or necklaces.
2. Wristbands, including those worn for health purposes or to convey a message consistent with DCA's mission, are permissible.
3. Temporary or permanent body markings are **not permissible**.
4. Backpacks and other bags should be free from cartoon, movie, or other similar type characters.

Lower School Girls' Dress

Shirts*

1. **Collared shirts** (Polo, Oxford, and Peter Pan styles) – any solid color; short or long-sleeved; DCA polos (available seasonally for purchase from the online Stag Swag Store: store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy).
2. **Sweaters, cardigans, and vests** – any solid color; crew neck, V-neck, or vest

***Special Notes:**

1. All **shirt buttons** must be fastened except for the top button.
2. All **shirts** must be neatly tucked in.
3. **Long sleeves** may *not* be layered underneath short sleeves for school dress.
4. When **sweaters, cardigans or vests** are worn, a polo, oxford, or turtleneck with a visible collar must be worn underneath.
5. **No** writing, designs, or large manufacturers' logos on shirts.
6. **Shirt collars** should be worn as they are intended. Oxford collars should be buttoned-down, and polo collars should be worn in the traditional flat style.
7. A **camisole** should be worn under lightweight or light-colored shirts.

Skirts & Pants*

1. **Solid color skirts or jumpers** – khaki, gray, navy, or black; no denim
2. **Plaid Skirt- Land's End Hunter/Classic Navy plaid** only
3. **Khaki, black, or navy dress pants** (no cargo pockets or jeans)

***Special Notes:**

1. All Lower School outfits should come **below** the knee when sitting or standing. (It is wise to make or purchase skirts or jumpers with hems that allow for growth and to check their length periodically to make sure that they meet these standards.)
2. **Slits** in jumpers or skirts may **not** go above the knee.
3. A **slip** should be worn under lightweight or light-colored skirts or jumpers.
4. **Pants and skirts** that have belt loops should be worn with a belt.
5. **Pants** should fit neatly and appropriately with no sagging.

Shoes* and Socks

1. Sneakers
2. Casual, low-heeled shoes (no higher than 2" heel)
3. Dress boots (no higher than 2" heel)
4. Sandals (no higher than 2" heel) (must have a back)
5. Socks, tights, or leggings must coordinate with the outfit.

***Special Notes:**

1. **No** crocs, flip flops, slipper-style shoe, or light-up shoes
2. During the winter, students may wear snow boots to and from school, but they must bring school shoes to change into during the day.
3. Shoes must be worn at all times.
4. Cleated shoes or skates are **not** to be worn in the buildings.

Hair

1. Hairstyles should be neat, appear natural in color, and cut in a feminine style.
2. Masculine, extreme, or faddish hairstyles are **not permissible** for school.
3. Basic highlighting is allowed, but **no** extreme or unnatural hair coloring.

Jewelry and Makeup

1. Earrings may only be worn in the lower lobe with a maximum of two earrings per ear.
2. If worn, makeup, nail polish, or jewelry should be neat, modest, and appropriate so that it does not draw attention to itself. (Makeup must reflect a “natural” look.)
3. Temporary or permanent body markings are **not permissible** for school.

Accessories

Backpacks and other bags should be free from cartoon, movie, or other similar type characters.

Lower School PE Dress:

1. **Shirts:** Any DCA T-shirt
2. **Pants:** Navy or black loose-fitting athletic pants, and **no** yoga-style pants.
3. **Shorts:** Navy or black knee-length shorts (optional for warmer months)
4. **Footwear:** Sneakers
5. **DCA sweatshirts** are optional

Note: All students with physical education for their last hour class or leaving campus after sports may be picked up in PE clothes.

Note: Many Stag Swag items are available for purchase in Common Grounds or seasonally from the online Stag Swag Store (store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy).

Lower School Snow Dress:

1. Snowpants
2. Snow coat
3. Waterproof boots
4. Waterproof mittens or gloves
5. Hats, scarves, etc.

Lower School Casual Dress:

Boys:

1. **Shirts/ Sweatshirts:** DCA Stag Swag
2. **Pants:** hemmed wind pants, athletic pants
 - **Jeans:** Must be neat, properly-fitting jeans, no rips or holes, and **not** skinny jeans.
3. **Shoes:** athletic shoes (Casual attire does ***not*** include flip-flops)
4. **Special Note:** Casual dress does ***not*** include shorts or sweatpants.

Girls:

1. **Pants:** Hemmed wind pants, athletic pants (***loose-fitting***).
 - Capri's in a woven fabric (below the knee)
 - **Jeans:** must be neat, properly-fitting jeans, no rips or holes, and **not** skinny jeans or slim stretch
2. **Shirts/ Sweatshirts:** DCA Stag Swag
3. **Shoes:** athletic shoes (Casual attire does ***not*** include flip-flops)
4. **Special Note:** Casual dress does ***not*** include shorts or sweatpants.

Lower School Concert Dress/Semi-Formal: *(Thanksgiving Program, Vespers, Spring Concert)*

Boys:

1. **Pants:** Khaki-colored
2. **Shirts:** White Oxford
3. **Shoes:** Black or brown dress shoes
4. **Special Note:** The school will provide bowties. Dark socks and belt should be worn.

Girls:

1. **Skirts:** Khaki-colored
2. **Shirts:** White Oxford
3. **Shoes:** Black or brown dress shoes
4. **Special Note:** The school will provide scarves.

Ordering Information:

Note: Lower School clothing meeting these guidelines can be handmade or purchased at any clothing store. The options offering items that meet our requirements are listed below.

LAND'S END

www.landsend.com

School Preferred Number: 9001-1955-3

FRENCH TOAST

www.frenchtoast.com

School Source Code: QS46MV

To order online: Go to www.dublinchristian.org/student-life. On the bottom, choose to go to the DCA uniform collection from Land's End or French Toast. These will be updated annually.

Lands' End has an excellent replacement policy, including typically replacing at no cost a uniform that is, for example, torn, stained, or faded.

DCA families can sign up for Lands' End's email and make purchases when Lands' End offers discounts on uniforms.

STAG SWAG SHOP

store.shirtmasters.com/dublin-christian-academy

Note: Stag Swag Polos allowed as school dress will be marked on the Stag Swag site. The Online Stag Swag Shop is only available for purchase seasonally.

Uniform Swap Shop

Academy families may exchange clothing with one another or purchase used uniform items at significantly reduced prices at the Uniform Swap Shop. The Uniform Swap Shop is located in Common Grounds. Uniform tops, skirts, and pants in clean usable condition may be dropped off in Common Grounds for Swap Shop credit at any time. If you would like to receive credit for your donations, please make sure the bag is clearly marked with your name. You may use your swap shop credit to purchase other uniform items at any time during the year.