

DRESS CODE

Personal Grooming

It is expected that students will come to school with a clean, neat appearance. Only natural makeup is allowed. Uniforms must be neat and tidy, in good repair, and worn modestly.

Hair & Hats

Students at the Academy are expected to have clean, well-groomed hair at all times. Students' hair should be tidy and out of the eyes. You are not allowed to wear hats inside the school building. This includes coming in and going out at the beginning and end of the day and for recesses. The exception to this is the necessary head wear required when students are going out into cold weather.

Jewellery

Boys are not permitted to wear earrings. For girls, studs and earrings are restricted to the ears. Jewellery may not be worn during P.E. classes or sporting events. This is a health and safety issue.

Temporary "Tattoos"

These should not be visible because of their distracting nature.

Rationale for Uniform

The major reasons for and benefits of uniforms are as follows:

1. Overall cost for outfitting a student each year is more cost effective than traditional clothes.
2. They are easier to monitor by the school staff.
3. There are no hassles about what to wear to school or wearing the "right label."
4. They "level the playing field." When students wear uniforms, there is no discussion or teasing about what the clothing looks like or whether it is the "right kind". Parental finances do not become an issue since everyone wears the same items.
5. Sports have demonstrated that the common appearance of a team contributes to their overall unity and spirit as well as making themselves identifiable to outside observers. A school uniform provides many of the same benefits. Because of this required consistency of appearance amongst the children, it is vital that the indicated uniform pieces only be purchased from the uniform supplier indicated.

Uniform Supplier R J McCarthy Limited 125 Nebo Road, Hamilton, ON L8W 2E1
www.rjmccarthy.com

Basic Uniform

The following items must be purchased from R J McCarthy:

- Girls - Jumpers: Grades JK to 4 - navy - must not be more than 5 cm (2 inches) above the knee
Kilts (optional): Grades 4 to 8 - must not be more than 5 cm (2 inches) above the knee
Skorts: Grades JK to 3 - navy - must not be more than 5 cm (2 inches) above the knee
Pants: Grades JK to 8 - navy - may wear black belt but no suspenders
Walking Shorts: JK to 8 - navy - may wear black belt but no suspenders
- Boys - Pants: Grades JK to 8 - navy - may wear black belt but no suspenders
Dress Pants (optional): Grades 4 to 8 - grey - may wear black belt but no suspenders
Walking Shorts: JK to 8 - navy - may wear black belt but no suspenders
- Unisex - White, Blue, or Grey Golf Shirt: Grades JK to 8 - long or short sleeved
White or Blue Turtlenecks: Grades JK to 8
Sweatshirt is optional; however, no other sweaters or sweatshirts may be worn with the uniform.

The following items do not have to be purchased from R J McCarthy:

- White Dress Shirt/Blouse: Grades JK to 8 - must be fully buttoned
- Oxford style, may not be jersey or knit material
 - long or short sleeved, not sleeveless
 - collared
 - no visible logos or labels

- a flat, unlabelled pocket is permissible

Shoes: Grades JK to 8 - mostly dark blue (navy/"uniform blue") or black with same colour laces
Velcro shoes are preferred for J.K./S.K/gr1 students or those who cannot tie laces.

- classroom shoes may not go outside or home during the school year
- indoor shoes may be worn for gym class provided they are non-marking athletic shoes

- Sandals are not permitted because of safety issues

Boys' and Girls' Socks: Grades JK to 8 - solid colour: navy, black, grey or white only

- girls may wear solid colour, solid material tights: navy, black, grey or white only (or navy, black, grey, or white leggings with same coloured socks)

Optional Dress Uniform (recommended for picture day and other special events)

The Dress uniform is now optional and may be worn at any time, but it must be worn properly.

Boys: JK-4 Long navy pants, white Oxford style dress shirt, and dark socks

Boys: 4 - 8 Long grey pants, white Oxford style dress shirt, and dark socks

Girls: JK-4 Jumper, white Oxford style shirt/blouse, and dark socks or tights, no

leggings

Girls: 4-8 Kilt, white Oxford style shirt/blouse, and dark socks or tights, no

leggings

Gym Uniform - All students in Grades 1 to 8 are required to wear the grey Academy t-shirt and blue Academy shorts for gym class, intramurals, and CAASO practices and events. Both the grey gym shirt and navy athletic shorts are available from R J McCarthy. Plain navy track pants may also be used to complete the gym uniform. Running shoes (non-marking soles), only to be used as indoors, are also required. All children in grades 1 to 8 are required to remove all of their outer school uniform and dress in the required gym attire. This ensures that children do not get chilled when redressing after gym by leaving on damp gym clothes and going into cool air. Failure to have on the correct, full uniform will prevent the student from participating in PE. This may also negatively affect his/her grade. Junior and Senior Kindergarten students do not need a special uniform for gym class.

Uniform Reminders – Uniforms must be neat, tidy, and worn properly.

1. Torn clothing must be repaired. Neat, preferably invisible patches are allowed on pants.
2. Clothing should be properly fitted and worn (e.g.: kilt length). When purchasing a kilt/skort, measure at the knee to allow for growth.
3. Golf shirts may remain un-tucked if they are fitted properly and are worn tidily. Students will be asked to tuck in their golf shirts if the shirts appear to be too long and/or billowy.
4. Girls' Oxford style dress shirts/blouses may remain un-tucked if that is the nature of the style and cut of the shirt/blouse and if the shirt/blouse is fitted properly. Boys must keep Oxford shirts tucked in at all times.
5. If you wish to wear a tee shirt under your shirt, it must be plain white. A navy blue tee shirt may be worn with the navy blue golf shirt.
6. Bombardieri and old uniforms from other suppliers have been phased out.
7. In most cases, students will be required to wear their school or P.E. uniforms on field trips. Some field trips warrant proper casual attire. Teachers will outline the dress code for trips.
8. The school reserves the right to ask any student to modify his/her dress and/or appearance. Non-compliance will result in the student being sent home from school.
9. Students are expected to leave school wearing their uniform (except dress down days). A note must be received from the parent for each occasion that it is necessary for a student to change out of his/her uniform before leaving the school.

Recess Clothing - Students may be outside for 20 minutes at the beginning and end of the day plus one 20 minute recess and one 40 minute recess. Appropriate outdoor wear is required.

FALL/SPRING – splash pants, rubber boots, and waterproof jackets or umbrellas

WINTER – snow pants, boots, mittens, hats and scarf. An extra pair of socks is recommended to be in their backpack in case their socks get wet at recess.

Please ensure that your child is dressed appropriately for the weather – this includes rainy weather. Students will be expected to be outside – rain or shine - for dismissal.

Exception: thunder/lightning or other severe weather. Umbrellas are highly recommended.

Spirit Days - There will usually be one spirit day per month. These will usually occur on the last hot lunch day of each month. In most cases, if a student wishes to participate in a spirit day, he/she must bring \$1 for fundraising/donation or a non-perishable food item for the community life cupboard. Spirit days are not simply casual/dress-down days but an opportunity to show school spirit. Some days will have special themes, although students should at least wear their spirit team colours if they “buy in”. Uniforms are always acceptable on spirit days, whether or not students contribute to the fundraising or donation.

At activities where the students do not have to dress in their uniforms, appropriate and modest (e.g., not too tight, not transparent, not low-cut, not sleeveless [i.e., no spaghetti straps, tank tops, or muscle shirts], not too short, etc.) age-level clothing is required. Clothes must be in good repair. Cut-offs or torn clothes are not permitted. Shirts should not display inappropriate advertisements, designs, or suggestive messages. If it would offend someone, it is inappropriate. Posted guidelines will give specific details for the day.

Personal Property - It is important that students properly label or identify those articles used at school that are their personal property. Lost articles will be disposed of if not reclaimed within an appropriate amount of time. Each year, hundreds of dollars' worth of clothing remains unclaimed.

Lost and Found - The lost and found box is located at the bottom of the middle stairs outside the B.A.S.S. room. Students and parents should check the boxes periodically. Remaining articles will be displayed at school functions (e.g.: concerts), and unclaimed articles will be given away, recycled, or disposed of. Please make sure all items have names on them, especially all uniform pieces, running shoes, mittens, and toques. Labelling items saves children from tears, accusations, frustration, and embarrassment. If your name is on it, we can easily return it to you.