

**DIVINE MERCY ACADEMY DRESS CODE**

Divine Mercy Academy is a Catholic elementary school, which maintains the right to establish a uniform dress code for its students. It is recognized that proper school attire and good grooming are conducive to a student's educational and social development. This Dress Code was developed for the following reasons:

- **promote a Christian atmosphere;**
- **free children for academic concentration;**
- **de-emphasize competition among children regarding clothing;**
- **allow more economical dress for school, and**
- **provide some choice to accommodate individual differences.**

This dress code policy is intended to maintain a standard of dress that is neat, economical, modest and attractive. All students in grades K-8 must follow the school dress code which is described below:

Parents are strongly urged to mark their children's personal belongings with their names. Since children do not readily claim lost items, proper identification helps us to find the owner and save parents the cost of replacement. The lost-and-found area is located in the school office. Parents and children are encouraged to look for lost clothing items there. More valuable lost items, such as glasses, watches and purses, are to be turned in to the office. Items that are not claimed by the end of each school year are donated to charity.

The goal of a dress code is to emphasize neatness and care appropriate to serious pursuits such as learning. All students are required to be in uniform during each school day (see Gym Uniform Policy for students' designated gym day). The complete uniform policy follows this Quick Reference of permitted items:

Each student is required to purchase one (1) **DMA-embroidered, Navy Blue polo** for Friday School Mass days, or as directed. These and all other embroidered items may be purchased through Log Cabin Embroidery [www.logcabinembroidery.com](http://www.logcabinembroidery.com). Additional polos and all other embroidered items are optional. Optional DMA Navy/Red Plaid skirts, jumpers, and accessories may be purchased through Log Cabin Embroidery or through any retailer (Schoolbelles, JCPenney, French Toast, Amazon.com, etc.) which offers a matching pattern.

Uniform Tops	Uniform Bottoms	Accessories
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DMA-embroidered Navy polo shirt, available for purchase through Log Cabin Embroidery.</li> <li>• Long- or short-sleeved, polo-style shirt in Red, White, or Light or Navy Blue. No pockets or brand logos.</li> <li>• Collared, button-front, long- or short-sleeved dress shirt in Red, White, or Navy.</li> <li>• Sweater in Red, White, or Navy, in a button-front or full-zip cardigan style, or pullover sweater vest, only.</li> <li>• DMA-embroidered, full zip fleece or zip-up wicking jacket in Navy Blue, available for purchase through Log Cabin Embroidery</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pleated or flat skirts or skorts (girls in grades K-8), jumpers (K-2), pants, or shorts in Khaki or Navy</li> <li>• DMA school-designated Navy/Red Plaid skirts, skorts, or jumpers may be purchased through various retailers.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Girls' hair accessories must be Red, White, Navy, or School Plaid.</li> <li>• Neckties in Red or Navy solid or prints, or School Plaid, may be worn with dress shirts.</li> <li>• Belts must be worn with belt loops (for grades 2-8) in Navy, Brown, or Black.</li> <li>• Socks for girls in Red, White, or Navy; for boys in White, Navy, Tan, or Black.</li> <li>• Shoes must be Brown, Tan, Black or Navy.</li> </ul>

Please go to <https://dmapgh.org/uniform-policy-order-form> and click on the uniform policy to view the example pictures of the uniform.

### School Uniform Policy

- The uniform should be neat, clean, and modest. No oversized (more than one size larger than the student normally wears) clothing permitted. Underwear, including camisoles, should not be visible.
- Uniform shirts may be solid Red, White, Light or Navy Blue, long- or short-sleeved, in a polo (without pockets) or button-front dress style; no logos, patterns, ribbing, or texturing.
- Neckties (Red, Navy Blue, or school Plaid) may be worn with dress shirts, if desired.
- All shirts must be tucked in to the bottom. Banded-bottom polo shirts are permitted.
- If wearing a jumper or sweater, a collared shirt must be worn underneath.
- Uniform pants and shorts must be a dress style, flat or pleated; no cargo pockets, rivets, double seems/patch pockets, or designs. No carpenter pants, leggings (without a skirt), or skinny pants.
- Uniform shorts must be between knee length and two inches above the knee. **Shorts are permitted only from April 15-October 14.**
- Girls' jumpers (K – 2nd, only) and skirts/skort (all grades) may be Khaki, Navy Blue, or DMA's Navy/Red Plaid; pleated or flat-front; scoop- or V-neck. No stretchy styles or polo-style dresses are permitted.
- Skirts, jumpers, and skorts must be no shorter than two inches above the knee. Solid-color shorts, opaque tights, or full-length leggings must be worn under skirts/jumpers. Shirts must not be longer than the skirt. Leggings must match the color of the socks worn. **No shorts from October 15-April 14.**
- All socks must be visible in shoes (no "no-show"). Girls' socks or opaque tights may be worn in Red, White, or Navy; boys' socks in White, Navy, Tan, or Black. Solid colors, only.
- Belts are required in Navy, Brown, or Black for girls and boys in 2nd -8th grade, if belt loops are present.
- Shoes must be flat, closed-toe, in leather or a leather-like material or a boat shoe style canvas. Shoes may be Brown, Tan, Black, or Navy. Velcro or easy-on/off shoes for younger students are preferred; laces must be worn if shoes have eyelets. Tennis shoes may be worn and are mandatory on gym days. **Starting next year in the 2021-2022 school year tennis shoes must be a solid color and free from logos or designs.** No heels, platforms, clogs, flip-flops, light-up shoes, Heelys, or boots with heels may be worn. If weather-appropriate boots are worn to school, students must change into uniform shoes upon entry.
- Body piercings (except for ears) and tattoos of any kind, including temporary ones, are not permitted.
- Excessive, oversized jewelry is not permitted. Necklaces must be tucked inside the uniform shirt. Girls may wear small earrings; no hoop or dangling earrings or more than one pair of earrings. Necklaces, bracelets, or clip earrings must not be worn in gym class.
- Students' hair should be neat, clean, and its natural color. Hair should never be in a student's eyes. Boys' hair must not extend past the bottom edge of the shirt collar.
- Girls may wear subtle hair accessories that blend with their hair color or are in line with the school colors (Red, White, or Navy, and the school-designated Plaid). No bandanas or head scarves. Headbands, whether soft or rigid, may not have cat ears, slogans, or anything different from a flat, normal-style headband.
- Make-up, except for girls' nail polish, is not permitted. If nail polish is worn, it should not be excessively chipped.
- **Hats, coats, jackets, and hoodies are not to be worn in school. Only DMA or Saber items may be worn. Such as a sweater (as described in the Quick Reference), the DMA-embroidered full zip fleece, the DMA-embroidered wicking zip-up jacket is permitted to be worn over the uniform in the classroom setting, or a Saber/DMA sweatshirt.**
- Sweatshirts (see gym, below), sweaters, jackets, hats, gloves, etc. should be clearly labeled inside with the student's or family's name. Any uniform questions/exceptions may be directed to the school office.

## School Liturgies

A DMA-embroidered, Navy Blue polo - purchased via the Log Cabin Embroidery Website - is the required uniform for all students for Friday school Mass days or any other special liturgies (or for school activities as the principal may direct). The only students exempt from wearing the school approved mass shirt are students who have gym on mass day. Any approved uniform bottoms (excluding jumpers) may be worn with the polo for Mass.

## Masks

**Mask letters, logos, and prints** – Masks must adhere to the following uniform requirements:

- **Must be free of letters** (with the exception of their names and DMA-related words, like the name of their team or the word “Sabers”, or college/professional team names, which we have added as acceptable mask designs)
- **Must be free of logos** (with the exception of DMA-related logos or college/professional team logos which we have added as acceptable mask designs)
- May have a print (like stripes, flowers, polka dots, etc.)
- May have sequins, glitter, etc.
- May be a solid color

**Afterhours** - Masks should be worn at all times when on campus, even after the school day has ended and students are waiting for sporting events or other activities to start! Please remind your child it is each of our jobs to protect our Saber family by responsibly wearing our masks.

**\*\*Students who do not comply with mask policies will be asked to participate in our virtual learning platform.**

## Gym Uniform Policy

- All Students shall wear a gym uniform to school on their class' designated gym day; no students are permitted to participate in gym class without gym apparel.
- All gym tops and bottoms must be purchased through the Log Cabin Embroidery.
- Gym T-shirts must be worn either completely tucked-in or completely untucked.
- Necklaces, bracelets, or clip earrings must not be worn in gym class.
- As with the school uniform, gym shorts are only permitted from April 15-October 14.
- **A DMA or Sabers sweatshirt or DMA wicking/fleece jacket is required for gym from October 15-April 14.**  
**No hoodies will be worn in lieu of the dress code sweatshirt or jacket.**

Gym Tops	Gym Bottoms	Gym Shoes and Socks
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Short- or long-sleeved T-shirt in Red or Navy with DMA logo in cotton or dri-fit options.</li><li>• Crewneck sweatshirt in Red or Blue with DMA logo or a DMA Saber Sweatshirt.</li><li>• Wicking zip-up jacket or full zip fleece jacket in Navy with DMA logo.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Cotton or mesh shorts in Navy with DMA logo.</li><li>• Jogger style sweatpants or wicking pant in Navy with DMA logo.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Closed-toe tennis shoes with laces or Velcro closure.</li><li>• Socks as per school uniform instruction.</li></ul>

### **Picture Day**

On picture day, students may wear clothes that do not fall under the uniform dress code, but reflect at least the same level of formality as the school uniforms. E.g., shirts, dresses, skirts, or pants that are a different color and style than the uniform may be worn; shorts and skirts must still not be shorter than two inches above the knee. No jeans, t-shirts, heels, clogs, or sandals without socks are permitted to be worn by students on picture day.

### **Dress Down Days**

Whatever students choose to wear must reflect our Catholic School Values. Shirts must have sleeves; spaghetti straps are not permitted; no inappropriate graphics or sayings. No cut-offs or short-shorts; no oversized or ripped clothes. If yoga pants are worn, skirts or tunic tops must be worn with them to completely cover the backside. Socks must be worn with shoes. No flip-flops, heels, or boots with heels.

**If you have any questions about whether or not your child is properly dressed for school – Call and ask.**