

Dress Code/Uniform Policy

By choosing to attend Val Vista Academy, you recognize and accept that you have chosen a uniform school. While VVA offers special days and activities that allow for non-uniform attire, it is imperative that you understand and comply with the school uniform policy.

Val Vista Academy believes that appropriate dress contributes to a productive learning environment. We strive to create a safe environment in which each student can focus on learning, develop character, build self-esteem and self-discipline, and model respect and good citizenship skills.

Although school staff will be responsible for enforcing the Dress Code, it is the responsibility of both parents/guardians and students to ensure compliance with the Dress Code. **Administration reserves the right to make determinations on Dress Code compliance as well as to further define or clarify the school Dress Code.** Questions or requests for exceptions based on religious or cultural grounds should be directed to administration.

Note: New trends, styles or terms to describe attire may be deemed a violation of VVA Dress Code/Uniform Policy at any time and at the discretion of administration. With that in mind, we strongly encourage parents/guardians to consider the intent and spirit of the dress code when choosing clothing for your children.

Uniform Tops-

- Val Vista Academy polo-style shirts (short or long sleeved) in white, navy blue, Viper red or black, with an official and visible VVA logo
- Tops must be sleeved and be unaltered in appearance
- Undershirts may be worn but must be in solid white, navy blue, Viper red or black
- Undergarments may not be visible or show through tops
- Polo-style dresses and jumpers (of appropriate fingertip-length) with the VVA logo are appropriate

Bottoms-

- Color: Solid colors of navy blue, khaki or black
- Fit: Traditional uniform fit (see images below)
 - Bottoms should not be baggy nor too tight or form-fitting and should sit between the natural waistline and hipline.
 - Bottoms must fit a student's body in such a way that undergarments, undergarment lines, or the anatomy of the posterior or genitalia cannot be seen, nor should movement be restricted.
 - The hemline should be finished and not drag on the ground.
 - In lieu of expecting or prohibiting 'cuts' of bottoms (ex: wide-leg, straight-leg, skinny, etc.), it is expected that **whatever a student wears is adherent to the terms and spirit**

of this policy. (i.e.: A “walking short” might be too short on a tall student, and a “skinny cut” might be non-form fitting on a slender student)

Outerwear-

- Sweatshirts or sweaters (lightweight) in solid white, navy blue, Viper red, grey or black may be worn; no brand logos or graphics
 - *Regardless of intent to “wear outdoors only,” any lightweight outerwear item must meet the above-mentioned rule*
 - *Students will not wear sweatshirts/sweaters inside out*
- School-sponsored sweatshirts or sweaters may be worn (must display VVA logo, school name or clearly be a school-sponsored event)
- Hats, sunglasses, head coverings, and outerwear hoods may only be worn outdoors
- Jackets and coats (heavyweight for cold weather) may be worn outdoors only with no restrictions on color

Bottoms-

- Style: Traditional uniform fabrics
 - Must be free of embellishments, holes, tears/distressing or similar effects
 - Must be at least “fingertip length” when student is standing with arms down at sides; if bottoms have slits, the top of the slit must be at fingertip length or lower
 - Must have finished hemlines; bottoms may not drag on the ground nor be gathered (Joggers are acceptable, as long as they are approved uniform colors).
 - Leggings, tights, and the like are only permitted under skirts, jumpers, etc. and must be in solid white, navy blue, Viper red or black
 - Middle school students (5th-8th grades) may wear solid black jeans (straight leg or bootcut style); “fit” as noted above; free of embellishments, holes, distressing, and tears; hemline/bottom may not be rolled

Shoes and accessories-

- Athletic-style shoes only. Boots, sandals, flats, and light-up shoes are prohibited.
- Socks will be white, navy blue, Viper red, black, or grey; Socks that are visible above the shoe line must be approved school colors (white, navy blue, Viper red, black or grey). Small logos or stripes or other accents are allowed, as long as they are also approved school colors. Images or pictures or words (that are not the sock logo), or anything inappropriate, are prohibited.
- Jewelry must be simple and complement the uniform without being distracting, unsafe, or have the potential to cause injury or harm
 - Oversized earrings are not permitted

- Headbands with points (ex: cat ears) or with large embellishments are not permitted
- Belts may be worn if bottoms have belt loops
- Belts may be in uniform colors or solid brown
- Belts should be free of embellishments, including the buckle

Grooming-

- Hairstyles and hair color should be 'natural,' modest, and not cause a distraction to the learning environment
- 6th-8th graders may wear makeup that is conservative, natural, and does not cause a distraction to the learning environment
- Neither temporary nor permanent tattoos should be visible. This includes writing on the body with ink (pen, marker, paint, etc.). Exceptions are made for markings as a result of religious practice or tradition (ex: ash cross on forehead for Ash Wednesday, or bindi or pottu) are acceptable.

Casual Dress-

“Casual Dress” Code applies to school-sponsored activities (i.e.: Dollars for Duds, Spirit Day, Spring Personality Pictures, etc.), or other non-uniform dress days (ex: in-class pajama day):

- School rules and Dress Code standards apply (i.e.: length and fit of bottoms; fit of clothing; distressing; frayed hemlines; the wearing of leggings or sweatpants, light-up shoes or sandals, etc.)
- Casual attire must be free of inappropriate or offensive logos, images, words, embellishments, and the like
- Sleeveless tops, tank tops, and tops with spaghetti straps (including dresses with these types of sleeves) are not permitted unless a sleeved shirt is worn underneath

