



THE VANGUARD SCHOOL K-8 UNIFORM POLICY

Revised 2022-23

Uniforms are mandatory for all K-8th grade students at The Vanguard School, and students are expected to be in uniform when they are in any school building. Wearing uniforms is intended to improve discipline and enhance the overall learning environment and also shows pride in oneself and in The Vanguard School.

The Board of Directors of The Vanguard School has established the following policy:

MISSION

The learning environment is significantly influenced by students' attire

* Wearing uniforms impacts the school positively by:

- ❖ fostering a distinct and positive Vanguard appearance
- ❖ helping students focus on learning
- ❖ reducing distractions
- ❖ increasing wardrobe equality

Items that noticeably differ from the approved uniform will not be allowed. The Board delegates to the administration and staff and reserves the right, at its discretion, to deny any item that is noticeably different in style, color, or fabric. Students wearing noticeably different items will be subject to the consequences outlined below. Items not covered above but considered inappropriate, dangerous, or a distraction from the learning environment are subject to review and prohibition by the administration.

Uniforms must be worn on field trips unless the administration approves otherwise. Uniforms are not required for evening or weekend activities unless specified by the administration or the activity supervisor.

ENFORCEMENT AND CONSEQUENCES

ENFORCEMENT

Within the school, the dress code will be enforced by the classroom teachers, other staff members, and The Vanguard School administration. The final decision as to the safety or suitability of any dress code issue will be left up to the principal or designee.

Anyone with a medical or religious reason for not following the above dress code guidelines will need permission from the principal prior to non-compliance with this dress code. Cheerful, consistent compliance with the uniform policy is expected by all.

CONSEQUENCES FOR UNIFORM VIOLATIONS

Uniform violations may be noted in the student's planner or otherwise documented (uniform violation slip). An "Oops Form" will be sent to parents after each infraction and an office referral will be assigned for every four accumulated uniform violations. If a student violates the uniform policy in a manner that cannot be immediately corrected, the student may be asked to call his/her parent or guardian to bring an appropriate uniform item(s) which will allow the student to comply with uniform policies.

UNIFORM WEAR GUIDANCE

Parents have the responsibility to ensure that their children arrive at school in the proper uniform. Students are expected to be dressed neatly, be well groomed, and give a general good appearance. Uniforms are to be clean, of appropriate size/fit, and free of holes, tears and frays. Uniforms must be worn as intended by the policy. A student will be deemed out of compliance for wearing non-approved items, or by wearing approved items in a manner that is sloppy, immodest, or otherwise inappropriate. Many uniform items can be purchased from suppliers other than Lands' End catalog sales, as long as they do not differ from The Vanguard School colors or styles.

Uniforms for Girls

PANTS/SHORTS

Pants:

- Must be chino blend or cotton chino in navy blue color only (pleated or flat front)
- No cargo pants, ankle pants, or capris are permitted
- Must fit the waistline or low waist
- No "low riding" or "skinny" styles are permitted
- May not touch the floor or be above the ankle
- Pants must be non-cuffed and may not be rolled to achieve the proper length
- Must be worn with a belt (1st – 8th)

Shorts:

- May not be shorter than three inches above the top of the knee when standing
- May not go below the knee
- "Skater type" shorts may not be worn
- Must be worn with a belt (1st – 8th)

BELTS

- Must be solid colored of navy blue, dark brown (not tan), or black
- No embellishments, spikes, metal protrusions, beaded, or painted designs
- Must be worn even if they don't show, such as with a sweatshirt, vest, or sweater
- Must be worn with pants and shorts (1st – 8th)

SKIRTS/SKORTS/JUMPER

Skirts:

- Must be At-the-Knee or Long Pleated in classic navy
- No shorter than three inches above the top of the knee when standing
- Shorts worn under skirts should be solid colored, match the skirt color, and not protrude past the length of the skirt

Skorts:

- Must be navy blue chino or twill fabric and may not have front pocket
- No shorter than three inches above the top of the knee when standing
- May not go below the knee

Jumpers:

- Jumpers must be navy blue chino or twill fabric. Knit fabric is not authorized.
- Must have a round or crew-neck neckline

- Shorts worn under jumpers should be solid colored, match the jumper color, and not protrude past the length of the jumper

SHIRTS/BLOUSES/TURTLENECKS/SWEATERS/SWEATSHIRTS/UNDERSHIRTS

All polo shirts, blouses, and shirts must have buttons all the way to the top of the garment. Shirts must be buttoned to a standard of neatness and modesty. Shirts, blouses, and turtlenecks must be worn tucked inside the pants, skirts, skorts, or shorts.

Polo shirts and Turtlenecks:

- May be worn in white, red, and chambray blue only, short or long sleeve
- Polo shirts must be plain, without any logos or decorations
- Turtlenecks with a full turned or mock collar are permitted in red or white
- No bow ties or neck ties may be worn with uniform attire

Oxford shirts and Peter Pan collar blouses:

- Short or long sleeved, white or light blue; with or without a pocket
- Oxford shirts must have a button-down collar
- No Jersey-knit fabric for Peter Pan collar blouses
- No bow ties or neck ties may be worn with uniform attire

Sweaters:

- Sweaters and vests must be Drifter style only and must be worn in red or navy blue only. A uniform shirt must be worn underneath, and the collar or turtleneck must be visible.
- Sweaters may be worn in zip-front or button-front cardigan, crewneck or V-neck, and sweater vests (V-neck styles only)
- Cable knits, fine-gauge cotton cardigans, and hooded sweaters **are not** approved uniform items.

Sweatshirts:

- Pullover Vanguard logo sweatshirts (not Spirit Wear sweatshirts or hoodies) may be worn as part of the regular uniform provided a uniform shirt is worn underneath and the collar or turtleneck is showing.
- ****All sweatshirts must be purchased from The Vanguard School***

Undershirts:

- Undershirts may be worn underneath a uniform shirt. It must be tucked and the longest sleeve of a shirt or blouse must be on the outside. T-shirts worn as an undergarment must be white if visible.

SHOES

- Required at all times
- No slippers, flip flops, or shower/beach thong sandals
- No lights or wheelie
- Boots must be below the knee
- Shoelaces must match
- Heels/soles must be a maximum height of 2 inches
- Athletic shoes are required for gym
- Patterns, decorations, and images on shoes must be discreet and not cause a distraction

SOCKS/TIGHTS

- Girls must wear solid-colored, navy blue, red, white, or black socks or tights

- Nylons/pantyhose must be flesh colored
- No leggings

HAIR

- May not distract from the learning environment
- Must be maintained in a neat and clean matter at all times
- Only natural hair colors are allowed.
- If bangs are worn, they must be above the eyes.
- No unusual or radical hairstyles are allowed. See below:
 - No undercuts
 - No mohawks or faux hawks
 - No design/pattern cuts, symbols, or shapes of any kind shaved in the head

HAIR ACCESSORIES

- May wear hair accessories such as barrettes, bows, ponytail holders and head bands
- Girls may not wear anything that could be considered a distraction or “costume” such as animal ears or other novelties

HATS

- May only be worn outside of the building
- Hats include visors and bandanas

JEWELRY/PIERCING/TATTOOS/MAKE UP

All jewelry must be conservative, non-offensive, and not draw undue attention. Excessive or large amounts of jewelry items are not permitted for safety reasons and for a lack of compliance with the overall intent of student appearance. Large neck chains, dog collars, pocket chains, safety pins, key or wallet chains are not permitted.

- One set of small, discreet earrings. No large dangling or hoop earrings.
- No nail decorations including jewels, initials, patterns, or designs should be worn. No more than two colors may be worn.
- Girls in grades 6-8 may wear minimal make up (no unusual or distracting colors)
- No ear gauges, facial piercings, or ear cuffs
- No visible tattoos (permanent or temporary)

JACKETS/OUTERWEAR

- Students may wear their choice of outerwear to and from school and during recess
- Outerwear may not be worn in the classroom
- Vanguard-only quarter zips with a collar may be worn in the classroom for **Junior High students only.**

Uniforms for Boys

PANTS/SHORTS

Pants:

- Must be chino blend or cotton chino in navy blue color only (pleated or flat front)
- No cargo pants, ankle pants, or capris are permitted
- Must fit the waistline or low waist
- No “low riding” or “skinny” styles are permitted

- May not touch the floor or be above the ankle
- Pants must be non-cuffed and may not be rolled to achieve the proper length
- Must be worn with a belt (1st – 8th)

Shorts:

- May not be shorter than three inches above the top of the knee when standing.
- May not go below the knee
- “Skater type” shorts may not be worn
- Must be worn with a belt (1st – 8th)

SHIRTS/TURTLENECKS/SWEATERS/SWEATSHIRTS

All polo shirts, blouses, and shirts must have buttons all the way to the top of the garment. Shirts must be buttoned to a standard of neatness and modesty. Shirts and turtlenecks must be worn tucked inside the pants and shorts.

Pullover Vanguard logo sweatshirts (not Spirit Wear sweatshirts or hoodies) may be worn as part of the regular uniform provided a uniform shirt is worn underneath and the collar or turtleneck is showing. The shirt underneath must be tucked, and the longest sleeve of a shirt or blouse must be on the outside. T-shirts worn as an undergarment must be white if visible.

Polo shirts and Turtlenecks:

- May be worn in white, red, and chambray blue only, short or long sleeve
- May be of mesh or interlock material, with or without cuffs with two to four buttons
- Polo shirts must be plain, without any logos or decorations
- Collars must be plain with no ruffles, lace, or embroidery
- Turtlenecks with a full turned or mock collar are permitted in red or white
- No bow ties or neck ties may be worn with uniform attire

Oxford shirts:

- Short or long sleeved, white or light blue; with or without a pocket
- Oxford shirts must have a button-down collar
- No bow ties or neck ties may be worn with uniform attire

Sweaters:

- Sweaters and vests must be Drifter style only and must be worn in red or navy blue only. A uniform shirt must be worn underneath, and the collar or turtleneck must be visible.
- Sweaters may be worn in zip-front or button-front cardigan, crewneck or V-neck, and sweater vests (V-neck styles only)
- Cable knits, fine-gauge cotton cardigans, and hooded sweaters **are not** approved uniform items.

Sweatshirts:

- Pullover Vanguard logo sweatshirts (not Spirit Wear sweatshirts or hoodies) may be worn as part of the regular uniform provided a uniform shirt is worn underneath and the collar or turtleneck is showing.
- ****All sweatshirts must be purchased from The Vanguard School***

Undershirts:

- Undershirts may be worn underneath a uniform shirt. It must be tucked, and the longest sleeve of a shirt or blouse must be on the outside. T-shirts worn as an undergarment must be white if visible.

BELTS

- Must be solid colored of navy blue, dark brown (not tan) or black
- No embellishments, spikes, metal protrusions, beaded, or painted designs
- Must be worn even if they don't show, such as with a sweatshirt, vest, or sweater
- Must be worn with pants and shorts (1st – 8th)

BOW TIES/NECK TIES

- No bow ties or neck ties may be worn with uniform attire

SHOES

- Required at all times
- No slippers, flip flops, or shower/beach thong sandals
- No lights or wheelie
- Boots must be below the knee
- Shoelaces must match
- Athletic shoes are required for gym
- Patterns, decorations, and images on shoes must be discreet and not cause a distraction

SOCKS

- Boys must wear solid-colored navy blue, white, or black socks

HAIR

- May not distract from the learning environment
- Must be maintained in a neat and clean matter at all times
- Only natural hair colors are allowed.
- If bangs are worn, they must be above the eyes.
- No unusual or radical hairstyles are allowed. See below:
 - No undercuts
 - No mohawks or faux hawks
 - No design/pattern cuts, symbols, or shapes of any kind shaved in the head
- Hair may be spiked with only an inch of the head
- Boy's hair that extends to the top of the shoulder and below must be pulled back to the back of the head (no high ponytails)
- Guidelines for hair pulled in a bun:
 - No top of the head knots (low or high on the back of the head only)
 - No undercut or partially pulled back hair (full bun only)
 - Must be well groomed and neat

HAIR ACCESSORIES

- Boys may not wear hair accessories other than a hair tie to secure their hair if longer than the top of the shoulder.

HATS

- May only be worn outside of the building
- Hats include visors and bandanas

JEWELRY/PIERCING/TATTOOS/MAKE UP

All jewelry must be conservative, non-offensive, and not draw undue attention. Excessive or large amounts of jewelry items are not permitted for safety reasons and for a lack of compliance with the overall intent of student appearance. Large neck chains, dog collars, pocket chains, safety pins, key or wallet chains are not permitted.

- No earrings, facial piercings, ear gauges or ear cuffs
- No nail polish or make up
- No visible tattoos (permanent or temporary)

JACKETS/OUTERWEAR

- Students may wear their choice of outerwear to and from school and during recess
- Outerwear may not be worn in the classroom
- Vanguard-only quarter zips with a collar may be worn in the classroom for **Junior High students only.**

UNIFORM EXCEPTIONS

CLUB/ORGANIZATION UNIFORMS

Students participating in Girl/Boy Scouts may wear their club uniform to school instead of their school uniform on the day of the meeting. When wearing the club/organization uniform, any article of clothing not part of that uniform must be The Vanguard School's uniform.

SPECIAL ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES

Students participating in special enrichment activities, such as Fiesta Day or the Roman Feast, may wear their costume to school on the day of the event.

SPECIAL EVENTS

For special events (musical performances, moving up ceremony, etc.) the school may require more formal attire – guidelines will be published for the event)

SCHOOL PICTURES

Uniforms are not required for individual student pictures taken in the fall, although they may certainly be worn if desired. Students who do not wear uniforms are expected to dress equally as formal as the uniform. Students are not allowed to wear denim – which includes blue jeans, jean jackets, vests, or skirts. No t-shirts, tank tops or spaghetti straps; shirts must be collared. Shorts and skirts must follow uniform length code. Students are required to wear their uniforms for the class pictures taken in the spring.

SPIRIT/PIZZA DAY

K-8th graders may wear official Vanguard Spirit Wear shirts on the second Friday of each month. Dress code must be followed for all other articles of clothing. Spirit Wear may include Field Day t-shirts as long as they are not autographed.

JEANS AND HOODIE DAY

From time to time, the administration may designate a Jeans and Hoodie Day when students are authorized to wear *jeans and hoodies (pull over or zip-up). School uniform shirts must be worn under the hoodie. Students must follow the dress code in terms of belts, socks, shoes, jewelry, hair, and make-up. Students may always wear an approved uniform instead of jeans and hoodies.

*Pant styles not allowed: Excessively tight or baggy jeans, jeans with holes, or frayed hems.