

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT THE DRESS CODE

1. *Why have a dress code at all?*

We believe that a dress code helps cultivate an expectation of serious academic learning. Taking the focus off the style and dress of other students allows for a direct learning environment.

2. *How is the dress code enforced?*

Any time a child arrives at school with clothing that violates our Dress Code, alternative clothing may be provided, a teacher may ask that clothing be turned inside out to hide an image, or the child may be asked to go to the office to call a parent to bring necessary clothing to school. Faculty or staff members who know the student will employ care and consideration in guiding the child to appropriate attire when needed. Our Office Coordinator will have the final say as to whether clothing meets the ideals of the Dress Code or not. Repeated incidents of the Dress Code violations will result in a meeting of the parent, Student Support Group and the student, as appropriate.

3. *Why not allow baggy clothing, including sweatpants, sweatshirts?*

When school begins, we hope that every child will be alert and ready for the day. Baggy clothing, while comfortable, does not cultivate an attitude of readiness for the school day. Baggy means sleeves long enough to cover hands, pants which drag on the ground and/or sag at the waist, and hoods which cover the face.

4. *Why are logos not allowed? (Unless smaller than one's palm).*

We understand that logos and advertisements are ubiquitous in our everyday lives, but here at DWS, we strive to make our campus an advertisement-free zone. Our school should be a place of healthy learning and relationships, and we find that logos are distracting and may be inappropriate for the wide range of ages we have here on campus. It is impossible for faculty, staff, and administration to make a judgment call on each individual logo that may be printed on clothing, and therefore, all logos unless smaller than one's palm except for DWS and Waldorf event t-shirts should not be worn to school.

5. *Are certain articles of clothing not allowed inside?*

Yes. Hoods, sunglasses, hats, and gloves should not be worn inside at any time.

6. *Is rain gear required on rainy days?*

Yes. Classes such as Games and Gardening take place outdoors, and class curriculums often call for students to go outside and enjoy the great outdoors. All students should have rain gear available to them every day of the week. Rain gear should include a rain jacket with a hood, rain pants, and waterproof shoes. Items can be left in your child's classroom.

7. *Why must long hair be kept out of the face?*

Hair in one's face or eyes impedes class work and participation, and can be a distraction for students, as well as their classmates and teachers. It is also a dangerous safety hazard for many of our specialty classes such as Games, Woodwork, Gardening, and Handwork.

8. *Why must jewelry be smaller than a dime?*

We ask that jewelry, including rings, earrings, necklace pendants, charms on bracelets, and anklets, remain smaller than a dime so as to ensure all children are safe and unencumbered throughout their many daily movement activities. Large jewelry can be dangerous in classes such as Games, Woodworking, and Gardening, and can also be distracting.