

Dress Code and Uniform Policy

All screen-printed or embroidered uniform pieces for student wear must be purchased through the approved clothing vendors. Our preferred partner for uniforms is Cramers Uniforms and Odyssey PTO for our gym uniforms and Immersion polos.

Pants/bottoms are not required to be embroidered. All uniform pieces with old and current logos previously purchased from Lands' End or Flynn and O'Hara are permitted to be worn as well.

Permitted uniform items for each grade level can be found [HERE](#) for easy access to purchase the school uniform. Or visit Cramers Uniforms in store at 101 Harrison Ave, New Castle DE 19720.

Gym uniform items can be found [HERE](#) for easy access to purchase.

Uniform Policy Overview

Grades K-5

- Short-sleeved polos and long-sleeved polos embroidered with the school logo are allowed in navy blue, light blue, and white.
 - Crew neck sweatshirts, sweaters, and full-zip fleeces with the school logo are permitted to be worn over polos.
- Pants, shorts, skirts, and skorts are to be worn in khaki, navy blue, or clear blue plaid. A 3D plaid jumper and a solid khaki and navy blue jumper are permitted. They must be worn with the white Peter-pan collared blouse.
 - Leggings are only permitted under skirts. Colors may be black or navy blue.

Grades 6-8

- Short-sleeved polos and long-sleeved polos embroidered with the school logo are allowed in navy blue, light blue, and white.
 - Crew neck sweatshirts, sweaters, and full-zip fleeces with the school logo are permitted to be worn over polos.
- Pants, shorts, skirts, and skorts are to be worn in khaki, navy blue, or 3D plaid.
 - Leggings are only permitted under skirts. Colors may be black or navy blue.

Grades 9-12

- Short-sleeved polos and long-sleeved polos embroidered with the school logo are allowed in navy blue, light blue, white, and grey.
 - Crew neck sweatshirts, sweaters, full-zip fleeces and quarter zips with the school logo are permitted to be worn over polos.
- Pants, shorts, and skirts are to be worn in khaki, grey, navy blue, or 3D plaid.
 - Leggings are only permitted under skirts. Colors may be black or navy blue.
- *High School students may also wear long or short-sleeved Oxford shirts, if previously purchased. Oxfords are no longer available for new purchases.*

Gym Uniforms

Grades K-8

- Students must wear gym uniforms and sneakers to school on active gym days.
- In grades K-5, teachers will provide the schedule of gym uniform days during the first weeks of school. Students in grades 6-8 will be scheduled into gym classes.
- The approved gym t-shirt (gray with navy logo) and/or sweatshirt (navy with white logo) should be purchased through OCS PTO.

- K-8 students may also wear approved spirit wear tops (t-shirts, long sleeve shirts, and crew neck sweatshirts) provided by the school. Spirit wear hoodies are not permitted.
- Plain, solid navy blue mesh shorts and/or plain, solid navy blue sweatpants may be purchased anywhere, but must be of the same color and style as offered by our vendor (Navy, dark blue). K-8 students may wear spirit wear that is solid navy blue (shorts/sweatpants) are acceptable as well.
- Gym uniform items are not to be worn with regular uniform items.

Grades 9-12 (High School)

- Students scheduled into gym classes (PE or Weight Training) will change into full gym uniforms with sneakers on gym days in the locker room. If students do not wear the full gym uniform, they must bring sneakers to school for gym and change into sneakers at the beginning of class.
- High School students are permitted to wear the gym uniform sweatshirt over collared polo shirts as an approved outerwear piece. Students may not wear the sweatshirt without a polo shirt underneath unless in a full gym uniform.
- *High school students are not permitted to wear spirit wear on gym days.*

Uniform Guidelines

Shirts

Shirts must be tucked in at all times. No more than the top two buttons of the shirt may be left open. Alterations to required school shirts and/or logos are not permissible. Long-sleeved garments may not be worn underneath school shirts that have short sleeves. An acceptable alternative is to wear long-sleeved school shirts or school sweaters.

Pants/Shorts

All pants and shorts should be purchased through Lands' End or Tommy Hilfiger. Non-uniform pants, including jeans, leggings, jeggings, joggers, cargo pants, and sweatpants, are not permitted. Pants should fit appropriately, being neither too tight nor too loose. Additionally, pants should not be too long; they should not drag on the ground.

Skirts, Skorts, Shorts, and Jumpers

Skirts, dresses, skorts, and shorts may not be shorter than one inch above the knee when standing or be at least the length of the fingertips when arms are fully extended at the sides.

Shoes and Socks

Shoes must be closed-toed, hard-soled, and have a back. Sneakers, boots, and dress shoes are acceptable. Lower school students must be able to tie their shoes or should use Velcro. UGG slippers and Crocs **are not** permitted.

Socks must be a solid color.

Sweaters/Fleece

School sweaters or the school fleece with the embroidered school logo from Cramers Uniform are the only permissible outer garments to be worn in class. School sweaters are available in a cardigan style, cable hooded style, and crew and V-neck pullover styles. The sweater or fleece must be worn with a school shirt underneath. Blazers (other than school blazers), coats, non-uniform fleeces, jackets, sweatshirts, etc., **may not** be worn in class or during school hours.

High School students may also wear approved outerwear/spiritwear designated by the building-level administration. Outer garments (other than sweaters) must be stored in the student's locker/cubby. OCS spiritwear hoodies/sweatshirts are not to be worn in class in grades K-8. All spiritwear may only be worn on spiritwear or dress-down days.

School Blazers

School Blazers embroidered with the school logo are available for purchase through Cramers Uniform. On formal dress days, students will be asked to wear their school blazers.

Students may also wear non-logoed navy blue blazers in a similar style. Blazers are not required to be embroidered, and can be purchased from major retailers such as [Amazon](#) ([1](#), [2](#), [3](#)), [Target](#), [H&M](#), [Zara](#), [Walmart](#), etc. Please click the links for examples of acceptable blazers.

Hats/Headbands

Hats are **not** permitted to be worn in school. During the colder months, warm hats are allowed and encouraged for outdoor play only. Only solid color headbands in black, navy blue, royal blue, grey, or white without logos are permitted. Headbands must be no more than 2 inches wide.

Backpacks and Book Bags

All students are expected to transport their personal materials in a bag of their choice to and from school. All bags are subject to search.

Jewelry, Hairstyles, and Accessories

Excessive jewelry, makeup, or hairstyles that are deemed by the school administration to be distracting or distasteful will not be permitted. Students will be asked to remove excessive makeup or hairstyles, or, in the event that this is not possible or the student refuses, will be sent home with a parent.

Hairstyles and hair lengths should reflect the atmosphere of decorum desired by the school. Mohawks, shaved designs, and spiked hair are examples of hairstyles that would not be acceptable.

The only permissible body piercings are earrings. No facial piercings may be worn. Earrings must be of modest size to minimize distraction. Students are not prohibited from wearing jewelry; however, Odyssey Charter School discourages wearing any type of valuable articles that could present hardship if lost or stolen. Expensive articles are worn at your own risk. Odyssey Charter School does not assume responsibility for articles lost or stolen.

Hats, bandanas, and sunglasses are all considered inappropriate for regular school wear. Headbands should be purchased through Tommy Hilfiger or Lands' End or be plain black/brown/blue/white plastic or fabric (no jewelry, feathers, dangling articles on headbands or barrettes). Writing on your body is not appropriate and is not allowed.

Blankets, Throws, Snuggies

Unless for a special occasion permitted by the School Principal, blankets, quilt throws, or snuggies are not permitted in school at any time.

Consequences for Violating the Dress Code

At the beginning of the year, teachers will remind students of dress code expectations and issue warnings to those students who are not complying with the dress code. Infractions after warnings are issued will result in consequences for students not complying with the dress code. Dress code violations are a level one infraction.

Used Uniform Program

If you have well-maintained (no holes, no stains) OCS uniform items to donate, please send your clean, freshly laundered item(s) into school with your child in a bag.

To obtain a Used Uniform Item you can attend the used uniform sale, which are held regularly and advertised by the PTO. Each item is \$5.00. If you have any questions regarding our uniform policy, please contact the administrative assistant at your student's building.

Dress Down Days/School-Sponsored Events

Students are only permitted to "dress down" on designated days with teacher and/or administrator approval. Student clothing on all dress down days, as well as clothing worn to after-school, evening, or other school-sponsored events, must be appropriate according to Odyssey Charter guidelines. Excessively torn or ripped clothing will not be permitted, in particular jeans with holes above the knees. Students are permitted to wear dark colored tights under their jeans. Slogans and logos on t-shirts must be school-appropriate. Hats are not permitted to be worn in school on dress-down

days. Dress code regulations with regard to jewelry, hairstyles, and accessories also apply on dress-down days.

Students wearing skirts or shorts must have clothing of appropriate length; the bottom of the garment must touch the tip of the student's fingertips while standing. Tank tops and/or sleeveless shirts are not permitted for male or female students on dress-down days. High-heeled shoes exceeding 1.5 inches are not permitted, except at school-sponsored dances.

Any student found to be wearing inappropriate clothing on a dress down day, at an afterschool, evening, or other school-sponsored event **will be** required to change the clothing, and/or parents/guardians and guardians **will be** contacted to bring a change of clothing to school. Subsequent infractions may result in other disciplinary action on the part of an administrator.

All students must wear clothing on dress down days that is appropriate to an academic environment and that adheres to the following guidelines:

- No clothing may be worn that creates a distraction for other students.
- No clothing may be worn that features offensive language; racial or ethnic statements; references to tobacco, drugs, alcohol, or gangs; or wording/graphics that are suggestive of sexual or other inappropriate behavior.
- No clothing or footwear may be worn that may threaten the safety of the wearer or other students (e.g., no shoes with wheels in the soles, or excessively high-heeled or platform shoes, no slides, flip-flop shoes, or slippers).
- Tops: Students may wear any top/non-uniform clothing, provided it fully covers a student, including the mid-drift. No crop tops or spaghetti strap tops are permitted.
- Bottoms: Students may wear any bottom/non-uniform clothing, but the clothing must not be torn or ripped above the knees. Shorts or skirts must be fingertip length.
- Dress Down Days are \$2 unless otherwise noted. Money should be turned into the students' homeroom or first period class. Students may choose to come to school in uniform instead of participating in any dress down day.

Lost and Found

We urge students and parents to label all belongings. Students are encouraged not to bring large sums of money or items of great value to school. School officials are not responsible for the loss of any item. Any found articles will be sent to the main office of the student's building. If an item is not in the lost and found, a parent or student should report the missing item to a staff member in the office. Periodically, unclaimed items may be donated to the PTO for uniform resale or a charitable organization.