



Cologne Academy Dress Code



Cologne Academy's School Board of Directors require us to be a uniform school and sometimes students and parents have a difficult time understanding why. Here are a few reasons why schools and Cologne Academy have a uniform policy.

- Encourage discipline
 - Help students resist peer pressure to buy trendy clothes
 - Diminish economic and social barriers between students
 - Increase a sense of belonging, school pride, and spirit
 - Drives up academic standards
 - Prepare students to dress professionally for future careers

As we grow each year, so do our standards of being one of the best schools Minnesota has to offer. We have phenomenal academic results but our appearance needs some fine tuning. The uniform policy is stated in the parent handbook but has left some room for gray areas. This letter is to help make the policy more black and white and not so gray and also give you time over the summer to find sales on clothing acceptable to wear to school as to not put anyone in financial hardship.

As stated in the handbook: Cologne Academy students must **maintain a neat, clean, and appropriate** appearance at all times. Uniform clothing should be in **good condition and without torn knees** and be labeled with the student's name. Clothing must be worn right side. **Belts must be worn** through loopholes on pants and should not dangle. Clothing is expected to be properly sized to fit. If girls wear **shorts under their skirts, they should not be visible** below the skirt's hemline. Hemlines for skirts, shorts and skorts should be no higher than 2 inches from the knee caps.

This means:

1. Leggings can be worn under skirts/jumpers, but NOT as pants.
2. Uniforms can NOT have stains or holes.
3. Denim is not uniform. Colored denim (i.e. jeggings, skinny jeans, pants with external pockets on the back side) is not uniform.

Please be careful when purchasing. Donald's is the preferred vendor and they will NOT sell you anything that is not uniform. Mass retailers lure you into their "uniform department" but this does not mean it fits CA uniform code. Mass retailers are positioned to sell you merchandise, not comply with CA's code.

As stated in the handbook: Uniforms are required on all school days except when otherwise specified. Cologne Academy allows parents to purchase uniform clothing at any clothing store. We ask that Donald's Apparel and Uniforms is used as the primary vendor for any clothing article that contains Cologne Academy's Plaid #57. Land's End Classic Navy Plaid is also acceptable.

Pants and Shorts: Navy Blue flat or pleated front, no cargo. *Skirts, Skorts or Jumpers:* Navy Blue or Donald's plaid #57

This means:

1. No jean looking pockets on the back of pants, the material should be a nice pant material, not corduroy or jean, no sweat pants/stretch pants.

Sweaters: Navy blue, light blue or white (full length). Note- colors that are *off shades* are NOT acceptable.

Shirts: White, Navy or Light Blue short or long sleeved collared shirts without pockets or logos. Mock or full turtlenecks without logos or crests are also acceptable.

*No colors other than white, navy blue, or light blue may be visible on or under student's uniform. (For example girl's cami's must be white, navy or light blue)

This means:

1. No hoods, No gray, No zippers.
2. If you wear a sweatshirt or sweater it needs to be crew neck with a collared shirt underneath.
3. Solid color shirts, no stripes, patterns, buttons, or other decorations.
4. Shirts long enough to tuck into bottoms (this eliminates the need for camis unless white shirts are too thin)

FOOTWEAR:

Shoes: Students are not allowed to wear flip flops and must wear socks with all footwear.

Socks: Socks and tights must be solid white or navy, with no visible logos or stripes.

Common violations:

Wearing sweatshirts to keep cozy. (Hint- wear uniform sweatshirt and dress in layers)

Not wearing a collared shirt under sweatshirts;

Outfits with holes and stains; Unclean and unkempt;

Girls in leggings and colored socks other than white and navy blue;

Colored shirts and bras under clothing that are visible through the shirts;

Stripes and logos on shirts

Jean pockets on pants;

Too much gray, NOT a Cologne Academy color.

As a school of character and high standards, our appearance needs to start reflecting our expectations of students. What has been allowed in the past will no longer be acceptable in the future. If you question clothing please ask before purchasing or bring it in with tags on and ask. That way if it is not uniform you may return it to the store.

Thank you for your cooperation in helping us make Cologne Academy a school of excellence and a leader in Minnesota educational standards.

Acceptable Looking Tops and bottoms-

Polo Shirts –long or short sleeve in powder blue, white, and navy. No logo with exception of CA logo. Cologne Academy logo shirts are available for purchase in August. These are from the Lands End catalog, but most major retailers have these.





Only Plaid # 57 from Donalds or LandsEnd Classic Navy plaid are acceptable.

Please be careful when viewing uniform "options" retailers display. NOT all are acceptable.

Pants are navy blue. No yoga pants or pants that look like jeans.

Acceptable Looking Tops and bottoms for boys



Polo Shirts –long or short sleeve in powder blue, white, and navy. No logo with exception of CA logo. Cologne Academy logo shirts are available for purchase in August. Plain white t-shirts may be worn underneath polo shirts-no images should be seen from the undershirt.



Navy blue slacks or shorts (weather permitting)

CA hoodies only.