

## **DaVinci Academy of Science and The Arts**

**Policy Number: 104**

**Policy Section: 100 – Administration**

**POLICY TITLE: Dress Code/School Culture Policy**

### **Revision History**

<b>Effective Date</b>	<b>Action Date</b>	<b>Revised</b>
<b>7 August, 2013</b>	<b>New Policy</b>	<b>New Policy</b>

## Dress Code

### PURPOSE OF THE SCHOOL DRESS CODE POLICY IS TO:

1. **Promote an appreciation for a DaVinci Academy education by:**
  - Maintaining an academically driven decorum while at school
  - Investing in a professional appearance while in a learning environment.
  - Devoting an attitude of compliance to our dress code and its enforcement.
2. **Improve and expand academic excellence by:**
  - Instilling students with discipline.
  - Helping parents and students resist peer pressure.
  - Helping students concentrate on their school work.
  - Encouraging an improvement in student behavior.
  - Encouraging a high level of program participation.
3. **Improve personal appearance by:**
  - Making affordable school clothing for students and their families.
  - Requiring professional attire more suited for academic achievement.
  - Establish a recognizable appearance for our students as we continue in our mission of community partnerships and field extension opportunities.
  - Students preparing themselves each morning for the rigor of academics developed by the DaVinci Academy faculty.
4. **Provide additional opportunities for increased school safety by:**
  - Decreasing violence and theft among students over designer clothing or expensive sneakers.
  - Preventing gang members from wearing gang colors and insignias while at school.
  - Preventing the concealing of paraphernalia that violates safe school policies.
  - Helping school officials to more easily recognize intruders who enter the school.

**DRESS CODE:** DaVinci recognizes that proper dress and grooming positively affect the behavior and health of students. Therefore, DaVinci sets the following standards for school dress and appearance: DaVinci reserves the right to prohibit any item of clothing which may cause a disturbance to an orderly school environment.

**Cleanliness-** Emphasis shall be placed on neatness, cleanliness, and safety in the personal appearance of students. Please shower and wear deodorant.

**Modesty- Students need to be mindful of our rigorous academic environment and not wear clothing that would distract from the teaching and learning of our school.**

**ID Badges-** All students, faculty, staff, visitors, and volunteers are required to wear an official school issued ID at all times while on campus. This badge must be worn on a lanyard to ensure visibility of the badge for identification purposes. Elementary students will keep their ID badges in the classroom until purposes of lunch, field trips or other identification requiring circumstances arise.

**Clothing-** Modesty in the personal appearance of students is stressed.

**Shirts/Blouses:** DaVinci Academy requires that all shirts/blouses be clean with no holes or tatters. Conservative patterns including stripes and plaids are allowed; however, logos or imprints are not allowed, unless the student has earned free dress. Shirt/blouse sleeves cannot be altered: cut off or shortened in a permanent manner, and must cover the entire shoulder. If an undershirt is worn, it cannot be revealing in any manner. Plain colored t-shirts are acceptable. Shirts/blouses need to be fitted and long enough to cover all undergarments at all times (Including reaching hands up, bending over, or sitting). Spaghetti straps, halter tops and bare midriffs will not be permitted. Clothing shall be made of materials that do not reveal personal underclothing. DASA faculty and staff reserve the right to interpret whether or not attire is appropriate. Students are encouraged to wear DaVinci and College apparel on Fridays. Students leaving the building on field extension opportunities outside of school will wear DaVinci T-shirts or hoodies, or standard dress code apparel.

- **Pants/Skirts/Shorts:** All slacks, long shorts, skirts, and pants are allowed, as long they are not revealing, Jeans or denim may be worn, but with no holes or tatters, unless free dress in earned. All slacks, long shorts, skirts and all pants need to be worn on the hips (no sagging). Shorts and skirts must reach the top of the kneecap when standing upright. Skirts can be patterned. Holes or tatters, split seams, cut-off or frayed hems are NOT ALLOWED. Embellishments such as sparkles, glitter, lace or embroidery must be kept to a minimum. No spikes or chains on any clothing are permitted. DASA faculty and staff reserve the right to interpret whether attire is appropriate.
- **Outerwear:** Large coats and pullover hoodies may be prohibited based on student safety. Fitted zip-up hoodies without logos in solid colors, fitted blazers, sweater vests, fitted sweaters, and school sponsored outerwear will be

permitted during appropriate times. DASA faculty and staff reserve the right to interpret whether attire is appropriate.

- **Shoes:** DaVinci Academy requires that shoes be worn both in and outside the school at all times and must cover the entire foot. No open toed or heel shoes allowed. Slippers, heels higher than 2", and flip flops of any kind are not allowed. Students must insure that they have the appropriate foot-ware for the days' activities (i.e. gym shoes for gym class, closed toed shoes for field trips, etc). DASA faculty and staff reserve the right to interpret whether attire is appropriate.
- **Accessories and Attachments:** Any logo, apparel, jewelry, accessory, notebook, or manner of grooming which, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute, denotes membership in such a group that advocates drug/alcohol use or exhibits behavior that interferes with the normal or orderly operation of a school is prohibited. Clothing will not be permitted which advertises or depicts any substance or contraband associated with such substances that a student cannot legally possess or use.
- **Prohibited items include:** chains on wallets, spikes on any item of clothing, excessive bracelets, or any accessory or excessive amounts of accessories which may be considered a risk to the health and safety or cause distraction from the educational process may not be worn. Badges or symbols worn in protest are accepted as long as they comply with current dress code policy. In addition, no chains will be allowed on any part of the body or clothing. Necklaces will be permitted as long as the single link does not exceed 1/16 inch. Hats are not permitted with the building and may be confiscated, unless the student has earned free dress. Administration and faculty reserve the right to determine whether the excessive nature of the accessory or attachment is a distraction for the students.
- **Gang Paraphernalia Or Apparel:** A gang is defined as a group of three or more individuals with a unique name, identifiable marks or symbols, who may claim a territory or turf, associate on a regular basis, and who engage in criminal, antisocial behavior, or interfere with the normal orderly operation of the school. Gang activities are prohibited in school and at extra-curricular or school related activities as is the wearing of gang paraphernalia or apparel that identifies a student as a gang member. Students aligning themselves with gangs or

engaging in gang activities may be suspended or expelled from school. Gang paraphernalia or apparel will be confiscated by school officials and not returned. DASA faculty and staff reserve the right to interpret whether attire is appropriate.

- **Electronic Devices:** Cell phones, pagers, unauthorized cameras, iPods, MP3 players, radios, portable stereos, tape recorders, headphones, and comparable electronic devices are prohibited during school hours between the hours of 8:00 and 3:20 in the building or in the DASA Courtyard. Lap tops are prohibited unless specific authorization has been given by a faculty member for a school sponsored activity. If devices are used at any unauthorized time by students and/or observed by teachers, administration or other staff the device may be confiscated and a parent can pick up the device from school. Upon retrieval the parent will receive notification of their student's first offense and sign a contract stating their knowledge of the school policy dealing with electronic devices and the consequence if their student has a second offense. On the second offense, the device may be confiscated and returned after the student or parent has paid a fine of \$15. The \$15 fine may be replaced with 5 hours of community service if the parent so requests. Any device not retrieved will be discarded at the end of the year. An offense against the electronic device policy is any time a student has ANY device taken away; offense one and two can be two different devices. Each subsequent offense will be handled on a case by case basis, resulting in, but not limited, to suspension.
- **Other Requirements:** Body piercing is limited to ears only, one earring in each ear. No other piercing will be allowed. Jewelry must also be modest, safe, and of a non-distracting style. Violations of this policy will be documented and if a student is non-compliant, he/she will be sent home to change immediately. Multiple offenses of this policy by any student may result in disciplinary action. DASA faculty and staff reserve the right to interpret whether attire is appropriate.

**FREE DRESS:** Students who have received grades of "A's" and/or "B's", no disciplinary incidents requiring a teacher referral to administration, "S" grade or higher on citizenship at the end of each quarter are eligible for FREE DRESS. Free

Dress will allow students, who qualify, to wear clothing that is **modest, safe, and does not interfere with instruction**. This means that certain aspects of DaVinci's Dress Code Policy would not apply to them. The aspects of dress code that would not apply are:

1. Jeans or Denim can be worn with holes or tatters (as long as it is modest and not revealing in any way)
2. Logo size limitations can be ignored
3. Hats can be worn in the building

Students must wear their I.D. which has the free dress sticker on the back. Failure to wear the I.D. may result in the loss of free dress privilege. Free dress is given in two week intervals. Every two weeks the student will acquire a new free dress sticker if they have maintained grades of A's or B's. The administration reserves the right to interpret whether the attire is appropriate. Additionally, free dress privileges can be removed for misbehavior, attendance issues, or poor academic performance.

**ENFORCEMENT:** It is the responsibility of both parent and student to prepare for school at the DaVinci Academy in the appropriate dress code of the school. Students will be asked to fix any clothing that does not meet Davinci Academy's dress code policy. If after being asked to correct the inappropriate clothing, the student may be subject to Davinci Academy's disciplinary policy, which will be handled on a case-by-case basis. Students missing their identification badges can choose to buy a temporary I.D. badge for \$1.00, or attend an after-school detention.