

UNIFORM POLICY 2017-2018

At Yinghua we value our students for who they are and not by how they look or what they wear. Students are expected to dress modestly and appropriately for an educational setting as outlined below. Teachers will check daily that students are in compliance with the uniform policy. Decisions regarding a student's attire will be made by a school administrator. When there are concerns, the school will follow the procedures outlined in the Student & Family Handbook. This policy is presented in sections: Approved Uniform Clothing for Lower School, Approved Uniform Clothing for Middle School, All-School Uniform Policies, Physical Education Class Uniform, Winter Clothing, Friday "Spirit Days" and Shopping recommendations.

Approved Uniform Clothing for Lower School (kindergarten through grade 4)

Below is an outline of what Lower School students *may* wear to school. Clothing required for religious reasons is permitted (Yinghua Policy #504); otherwise, **items not listed may not be worn**. Clothing must fit appropriately for school dress. Excessively tight or baggy clothing is not permitted, including skin tight pants/leggings.

- Plain light blue t-shirt, polo, turtle neck or mock turtle neck.
- Plain light blue Oxford cloth dress shirt or blouse.
- Plain light blue sweatshirt, sweater, fleece or vest. The entire garment must be light blue with no colored highlights or writing.
- Plain white sweatshirt, sweater, fleece or vest. The entire garment must be white with no colored highlights or writing.
- Plain black sweatshirt, sweater, fleece or vest. The entire garment must be black with no colored highlights or writing.
- Black spirit wear sweatshirt from a school source such as athletics or YACA. The words Yinghua Academy must appear on the sweatshirt and lettering must be in black, white or red. This is the only spirit wear that may be worn on a regular school day.
- Plain, solid black pants, shorts or skorts.
- Plain, solid black skirts or blue and black plaid skirts or dresses from Donald's Uniform.
- Plain black or light blue jumper-style dresses (Must wear approved uniform shirt underneath).
- Plain light blue knit or polo style dresses.
- All skirts, jumpers and dresses must be worn with plain black or light blue modesty shorts underneath.
- Black sweatpants and mesh/cotton gym shorts—**kindergarten ONLY**.
- Black yoga pants provided they are knit, clean, unaltered, not too tight and fit well.
- Plain white, black or light blue socks or blue plaid ruffle sock from Donald's.
- Shoes must be athletic/sport/tennis shoes with **closed-toes** and **closed heels** for safety, but may be any color.
 - Boots, dress shoes, sandals and flip-flops may not be worn during the school day.
- **Shirts may not be dark blue, royal blue, powder blue, turquoise, etc. in color.**
- **Sweatshirts, sweaters and fleece must be worn over an approved uniform shirt.**



Approved Uniform Clothing for Middle School (grades 5 through 8)

***NOTE** – *Nearly all* Lower School approved uniform pieces may be worn in Middle School. In addition, MS students may wear the following items:

- Plain, entirely red polo, turtle neck or mock turtle neck. The garment must be entirely red with no colored highlights or writing.
- Plain, entirely red Oxford cloth dress shirt or blouse. The garment must be entirely red with no colored highlights or writing.
- Plain, entirely red sweatshirt, sweater, fleece or vest. The garment must be entirely red with no colored highlights or writing.
- Plain red socks.
- Lands' End "Red Plaid" pattern skirt, a-line skirt or side-pleat skirt. Only the Lands' End "Red Plaid" pattern is allowed.
- Shoes may be any style or color, but must be closed-toed and have closed heels for safety.
 - Shoes/boots may not have heels that are more than ½ inch high.
 - Fashion boots may not rise above the knee.
 - Winter/outdoor boots of any kind may not be worn during the school day.
- **Shirts may not be pink, fuchsia, burgundy, etc. in color.**
- **T-shirts may not be worn alone in MS, except in PE class (see PE Uniform Policy below).**

All-School Uniform Policies, For *All* Students

- Black skin-tight leggings, tights, bike shorts and compression style bottoms should be worn as modesty garments under skirts and dresses, but may not be worn alone.
- Shorts must be black chino-type for both boys and girls (A.K.A. "walking", flat front or cargo shorts).
- Shorts/skirts may not be more than 2" or 3 finger widths above the knee.
- School logos are preferred on shirts/tops, but are not required.
- Sweatpants and mesh/athletic/gym shorts may not be worn, but loose-fitting yoga-style pants are allowed.
- Jeans may not be worn. Jeans are any color or any fabric pant having metal rivets and/or pockets sewn to the outside of the pant.
- Uniform clothing should be neat, in good shape and clean.
- Uniform clothing may not be altered, cut, torn, etc.
- Clothing must fit well. Excessively baggy or tight clothing is not permitted, including skin tight pants/leggings.
- Long-sleeved shirts may not be worn under short-sleeved shirts.
- Hats, caps, kerchiefs, bandanas, scarves, etc. are not allowed.
- Hair may only be dyed natural colors. This includes colored feathers, ties and extensions.
- Soccer cleats, wheeled shoes, "Heelys," etc. may not be worn inside the building at any time.
- Outerwear (non-uniform coats, jackets, snow pants, boots, etc.) may not be worn during the school day.
- **NOTE** - Some rooms may be chilly; however, students still need to be in proper uniform. The uniform policy is designed so that students may layer for warmth.

Physical Education (PE) Class Uniform

For PE class, all students must wear or bring gym/athletic shoes which may be kept at school.

In addition, students in grades 6 through 8 are permitted and encouraged to change into athletic shorts, sweatpants, t-shirts and sweatshirts for PE class. After PE, they must change back into the uniform. Approved PE attire for grades 6 through 8 includes:

- Plain **black** mesh or cotton gym/athletic shorts or plain black sweatpants.
- Plain **red, black or white** t-shirts or Yinghua spirit wear t-shirts.
- Plain black, white or red sweatshirts or Yinghua spirit wear sweatshirts.

Winter Clothing

Parents are responsible for making sure their children are always dressed appropriately for the weather. Students, teachers and staff go outside every day for recess, PE class and/or Yinghua Care unless the actual temperature and/or wind chill is below zero.

A coat or jacket (sweatshirts are not sufficient), warm hat and mittens or gloves are required when the weather is 40 degrees Fahrenheit or colder. In addition, snow pants and snow boots are required for students in kindergarten through grade 5 whenever the weather reaches 30 degrees Fahrenheit or colder or there is snow on the ground. Students who are not dressed properly will not be allowed outside for recess, PE, Before Care or Aftercare.

Always send appropriate outdoor clothing, as described here, *even on the coldest days when students may not be going outside*. **Dressing for the weather is always important.** Students must be prepared in case an emergency arises requiring us to exit the building and remain outside for a period of time.

Friday “Spirit Days”

Every Friday, students in all grades have the option of wearing any **Yinghua spirit wear** top (t-shirt, pullover, sweatshirt, etc.) in addition to regular uniform pieces (tops and bottoms). When wearing a spirit wear hoodie, pullover or sweatshirt; students must wear a uniform or spirit wear shirt underneath the top layer of indoor clothing in case it’s warm inside and they wish to remove the top layer.

Shopping Recommendations

Yinghua Academy approved uniform vendors:

- ❖ Lands’ End; use school code **900120379**: <http://www.landsend.com/ix/schooluniforms/>
- ❖ Donald’s Uniforms (in Saint Paul): www.donaldsuniform.com

The school is sensitive to concerns regarding the affordability of uniforms and has partnered with the above companies to provide a convenient option for approved uniform clothing and logo options. You may find that the above vendors offer sales, have good return policies and will embroider the Yinghua Academy logo if desired. Sometimes 1-cent logos and free shipping are offered. These websites also provide a “visual glossary” of approved Yinghua uniform pieces, but Yinghua families are not required to purchase uniform items only from these sources. Any source is acceptable as long as the clothing meets the requirements of the Yinghua Uniform Policy. Yinghua parent volunteers also organize Used Uniform Sales at school throughout the year.