

UNIFORM POLICY 2021-2022 (updated September 2020)

Items not listed in the policy may not be worn. Teachers and staff check daily that students are in uniform, and noncompliance decisions are made by Yinghua administrators following Student & Family Handbook procedures.

All-School Uniform Rules for All Grades

- Clothing should be neat, in good shape, and clean, and it should not be torn, cut, or transparent.
- School logos on tops are preferred but not required.
- Indoors, students must be in uniform. See “**Over the uniform top**” for layering options.
- Solid-color sweatshirts worn over a uniform top may not include non-Yinghua lettering or logos or other embellishments such as colored highlights, accents, stripes, patches, or colored zippers.
- Students are encouraged to wear plain-black leggings, plain-black bike shorts, or plain-black tights with skirts, jumpers, and dresses.
- Shorts and skirts may not be shorter than 4-inches above the knee unless worn with black bike shorts, tights, or leggings.
- Shoes must have a closed-toe and closed-heel. Not permitted are sandals, flip-flops, Keens, Crocs, or slides. Winter boots, UGGs, UGG-style boots, soccer cleats, and wheeled shoes may not be worn inside.
- Outdoor gear such as coats, jackets, snow pants, and boots may not be worn inside.
- Hats, caps, bandanas, and scarves are not allowed unless for religious reasons (Yinghua Policy #504).
- Hair may only be dyed natural colors. Colored feathers and extensions are not allowed, and bright-color giant hair bows and themed hair accessories, such as cat ears, horns, or giant flowers, may not be worn.

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

Lower School Tops

- Shirts must be **light-blue**—not dark blue, royal blue, powder blue, or turquoise—and without decorative embellishment. Permitted are:
 - ✓ Light-blue t-shirts
 - ✓ Light-blue polos
 - ✓ Light-blue turtlenecks
 - ✓ Light-blue mock turtlenecks
 - ✓ Light-blue Oxford cloth dress shirts, and
 - ✓ Light-blue blouses.
- **Over the uniform top**, Lower School students have two choices for an indoor layer worn over the uniform shirt. They may wear a solid-color item or a spirit wear item. The solid-color item may be a light-blue, black, or white sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece, and the entire garment must be of the solid color with no highlights or writing. The spirit wear item may be a light-blue, black, white, gray, or charcoal Yinghua spirit wear sweatshirt from YACA or Yinghua Athletics.
- **Under the uniform top**, students may wear a long-sleeved base layer in light-blue, black, or white.

Lower School Bottoms

1. Plain, solid-black cargo pants, corduroys, khakis, chinos, dress pants, walking pants, jeans, leggings, yoga pants, sweat pants, jogger pants, athletic pants, or warm-up pants.
 2. Plain, solid-black capris, shorts, skirts, and skorts.
- Also permitted are Donald’s Uniform blue-and-black plaid skirts; jumper dresses (worn with a uniform top) in solid-black, solid-light-blue, or Donald’s Uniform blue-and-black plaid; and plain light-blue knit or polo dresses.
 - Students are encouraged to wear skirts, jumpers, and dresses with plain black bike shorts, plain black tights, or plain black leggings.

Lower School Footwear and Hair Accessories

- **Socks:** Any solid-color socks.
- **Shoes:** Lower School students **may wear only gym shoes inside school**. Any color closed-toe and closed-heel gym shoes will do such as athletics shoes, sports shoes, or tennis shoes.
- **Hair Accessories:** Lower School students may wear solid-color light-blue, white, or black hair accessories such as clips, small bows, headbands, scrunchies, and the like.

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

Middle School Tops

- Shirts must have collars and must be solid red—not pink, fuchsia, or burgundy—and without decorative embellishment or colored highlights or writing. **T-shirts may not be worn.** Permitted are:
 - ✓ Red polos
 - ✓ Red turtlenecks
 - ✓ Red mock turtlenecks
 - ✓ Red Oxford cloth dress shirts, and
 - ✓ Red blouses.
- **Over the uniform top**, Middle School students have two choices for an indoor layer worn over the uniform shirt. They may wear a solid-color item or a spirit wear item. The solid-color item may be a red, black, or white sweatshirt, sweater, or fleece, and the entire garment must be of the solid color with no highlights or writing. The spirit wear item may be a red, black, white, gray, or charcoal Yinghua spirit wear sweatshirt from YACA or Yinghua Athletics. The light red or black Yinghua Debate sweatshirts also may be worn.
- **Under the uniform top**, Middle School students may wear a long-sleeved base layer in red, black, or white.

Middle School Bottoms

- Lower School Bottoms 1-2 may be worn.
- Lands' End "red plaid" skirt, A-line skirt, or side-pleat skirt.
- Plain red knit or polo dresses.
- Middle School students may not wear the Lower School blue-and-black plaid, light-blue jumpers, light-blue knit dresses, or light-blue polo dresses.
- Students are encouraged to wear skirts and dresses with plain black shorts, plain black tights, or plain black leggings.

Middle School Footwear and Hair Accessories

- **Socks:** Any solid-color socks.
- **Shoes:** Shoes or fashion boots may be any color or style that is closed-toe and closed-heel with a heel no higher than ½-inch. Fashion boots may not rise above the knee.
- **Hair Accessories:** Middle School students may wear solid-color red, black, or white hair accessories such as clips, small bows, headbands, scrunchies, and the like.

Physical Education (PE) Class Attire

- All students must wear gym shoes or athletic shoes during PE class!
- Gym shoes may be kept at school.
- Students in 6th through 8th grades are encouraged to change into athletic attire for PE class. If they do so, they must change into uniform again following PE class. For 6th through 8th grade students, athletic attire includes:
 - ✓ Plain black mesh or cotton gym/athletic shorts
 - ✓ Plain black sweatpants
 - ✓ Plain gray t-shirt or gray Yinghua Spirit Wear T-shirt, and
 - ✓ Plain black, white, light-blue, or red sweatshirt or Yinghua spirit wear sweatshirts.

Winter Attire

- Students should always be dressed for the weather. Unless the temperature or temperature with wind-chill is below zero, students, teachers, and staff go outside daily for recess, PE class, and other activities. Even on the coldest days when it may not be possible to go out, students still must have appropriate winter clothing at school in case of an emergency.
- A coat or jacket, warm hat, and mittens or gloves are required when the weather is 40 degrees Fahrenheit or colder.
- Sweatshirts are not sufficient for cold weather.
- Snow pants and snow boots are required for students in kindergarten through 5th grade 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, Aftercare, or other outdoor activities.

Friday “Spirit Days”

- On Fridays, students in all grades may wear Yinghua spirit wear, which is clothing provided by YACA or the school which includes the Yinghua logo or Yinghua lettering. Items include:
 - ✓ Spirit wear t-shirts or pullovers, worn with uniform bottoms. If wearing a top layer such as a hoody or sweatshirt, it must be worn with a uniform or spirit wear shirt underneath.
 - ✓ Spirit wear red-plaid flannel pants.

Preferred Vendors

- Lands' End: <http://www.landsend.com/ix/schooluniforms/>. Use school code 900120379.
- Donald's Uniforms in Saint Paul: www.donaldsuniform.com.
- French Toast: <https://www.frenchtoast.com/>.

The school is sensitive to uniform affordability, and Yinghua parent volunteers organize Used Uniform Sales at school throughout the year. Yinghua families are not required to purchase uniforms only from the above vendors. Any source is acceptable as long as the clothing meets the uniform requirements. The Lands' End and French Toast websites offer good visual glossaries of Yinghua uniform options. Donald's is a local source. All three vendors offer Yinghua logos with occasional sales.