



Detroit Academy of Arts & Sciences
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August 2, 2022

Dear DAAS Parents, Scholars, and Staff:

Hello DAAS Family! We are so excited to have your scholar with us here at Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences. A few months ago, we sent out surveys to our parents and scholars asking for your thoughts on our Uniform Policy. As a result, we have relaxed the policy and made a few modifications. Please see our New Policy below along with other important information:

School Uniform Policy

All scholars must come to school in the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform every day except for Fridays (**Scholars can wear appropriate free dress on Fridays**). If a scholar arrives at school out of uniform, parents will be notified and asked what support is needed to ensure their child is able to wear the proper uniform. We have a required school uniform for several very important reasons:

- 1. Uniforms unite us as a community.** When you look at the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences shirts, it is a powerful visual statement of our community. Scholars make a commitment that when they put on the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform, they are agreeing to live up to the school's values.
- 2. Uniforms reduce distractions and clothing competition.** Often scholars spend more time discussing and evaluating what others are wearing or not wearing than they spend focusing on learning. Wearing uniforms eliminates this distraction.
- 3. Uniforms make us all equal.** Whether families have high incomes or low incomes, the scholars come to school looking the same way. No one is made to feel bad about the clothes they have or don't have.
- 4. Uniforms look professional.** Scholars look neat when they arrive at school with shirts tucked into their pants. This encourages scholars to come mentally prepared for school and "dressed for work."

Scholars may not change out of the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform at any point during the school day unless approved by school administration.

General Uniform Requirements:

JACKETS: Students may not wear jackets inside the school building. If a scholar is worried about being cold inside the building, he or she should wear their white or blue hoodie or sweater. We also encourage scholars to wear thermals under their school attire for extra comfortability.

JEWELRY/Accessories: We would prefer it if scholars did not wear jewelry. Large earrings, multiple chains or rings, and bracelets distract from the uniform. In addition, such items can get lost or stolen. If a scholar chooses to wear jewelry, it must be modest.

Scholars may wear only one chain or necklace, and it must be tucked neatly under their uniform shirt. If a scholar wears jewelry that the Administrative Team considers excessive, then the scholar will be asked to remove it.

HATS: Scholars are not allowed to wear baseball hats, hair bonnets, headbands, do-rags, bandanas in the building. Small clips or bands for the hair are permitted.

MAKE-UP: Make-up is not allowed (lipstick, eye shadow etc.) unless approved for school related performances.

Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences Uniform:

The components of the Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences uniform are as follows:

Tops: Blue or White short sleeve or long sleeve polo shirt. The polo shirt can have a university/college logo. Polo shirts that have any large writing or other symbols are not allowed.

Blue or White sweaters and thermals are optional. Hoodies are allowed as part of the uniform. Hoods are not to be worn in the school building during the school day. Hoodies that have any large logos, writing, or other symbols are not allowed.

Bottoms: Jeans, dark colored slacks, dark colored skirts. Ripped jeans, pants, skirts or shorts are not allowed. Skirts (should be no shorter than 3 inches above the knee). Bottoms should not be too baggy or too tight.

- Tights, leggings, yoga pants, jeggings, ripped jeans, tank tops or any other tight pants or shirts are NOT allowed.

Shoes: Sneakers or dress shoes with laces that are tied or have Velcro are allowed to be worn to school each day. Shoes and socks must have appropriate designs. No high heels, flip flops, crocs or sandals are allowed.

Other Important Information

FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL, BACK TO SCHOOL RALLY AND WEEKLY COMMUNICATION

- First Day of School will be on Monday, August 29, 2022.
- Our Back to School Rally and Enrollment Fair will be held on Saturday, August 20, 9am to 4pm.
- You will begin receiving weekly correspondences from your Building Principal and District staff over the next few weeks, so please remember to adjust your notification settings and make sure we have accurate contact information on file.

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL LEARNING:

- DAAS is offering in-person and virtual learning in all grade bands this fall. Please be sure to register for virtual learning if interested.

VACCINATIONS:

- COVID-19 vaccinations are not required but strongly recommended for all eligible individuals in our school community at this time.

FACE MASKS:

- Mask wearing will be optional but highly encouraged. Note that this is subject to change pursuant to CDC guidelines.

ILLNESS POLICY:

- Scholars who are experiencing symptoms meeting COVID-19 criteria must be evaluated regardless of vaccination status.
- COVID-19 PCR tests are required for all symptomatic individuals prior to their return to school after illnesses.
- Option of no COVID-19 PCR testing for scholars if they remain away from in-person school commitments for 5 days.

TRANSPORTATION & LATCHKEY:

- Transportation is available for our scholars throughout the City. Please contact the school for route information and pick up times.
- DAAS offers Latchkey in the mornings and afternoons. Please contact the front desk for more information if needed.

Once again, we are honored to have your scholar here with us at Detroit Academy of Arts and Sciences. We encourage you to spread the word to friends and neighbors that we currently have open seats and they should enroll. Please let us know if there is anything that we can do to help in your child's return to school.

Your Partner in Education,

Maurice G. Morton, CEO

“Changing the World One Student At A Time”