

# 2023-24 Great Lakes Academy

## UNIFORM POLICY

### Guiding Philosophy

At GLA, we believe that student clothing choices often represent the many facets of a student's identity such as ethnicity, culture, religious beliefs, and gender identity. Our uniform policy is designed to allow predictability for students and families, and foster a school environment more conducive to learning.

### Uniform Policy

Students are expected to wear the complete GLA school uniform daily. The GLA uniform consists of a GLA-branded or navy blue top, school uniform-type bottoms, and footwear, as detailed below. GLA students will never be held out of class for uniform infractions. Upon arrival at school, if a GLA student does not meet the uniform expectations, the parent/guardian will be contacted directly. Additionally, if the student dress is not aligned with the guiding philosophy, GLA staff will use discretion and adjust the student dress onsite to ensure no disruptions to their instructional time.



### TOPS

Students are required to wear a GLA-branded polo, sweatshirt, or t-shirt or they may wear a non-GLA branded navy blue top in place of GLA-branded tops (crop tops are never permitted). GLA-branded cardigans may be worn over plain, neutral t-shirts. Undergarments and midriffs should never be visible.

### BOTTOMS

Students may wear pants, jeans, skirts, skorts, or jumpers; cargo pants are not permitted. They may be black, navy blue, or khaki/tan and there should be no rips, tears, or distressing. All hems can be no shorter than three inches above the knee. Please click [here](#) for a sample bank of images.

### FOOTWEAR

Students are required to wear footwear that is appropriately sized and cover the entirety of their feet. Shoes may be of any color or design as long as they do not impede the student's mobility in an emergency situation. Crocs or other sandal-type shoes are considered in violation of the uniform code. Students are not allowed to wear inclement weather footwear (snow or rain boots) throughout the building. It is recommended that change of shoes be stored in the student's locker or brought to school on a daily basis.

**BELTS:** Belts are allowed, though we highly encourage families not to dress students in belts if it limits their mobility or ability to navigate restroom protocols.

**JEWELRY:** Jewelry is allowed as long as it is not disruptive to the learning environment or prevents mobility in emergency situations.

**HANDBAGS/BACKPACKS:** Students in grades 5-8, or with permission, are allowed to carry the branded GLA clear backpack (see our GLA storefront linked below). All other items must be stored in lockers.

**HEADWEAR:** Headwear is not allowed. The exception to this rule is accommodations for medical, religious, or cultural reasons. Please contact the main office to request an exemption.

**OUTERWEAR:** Students are not allowed to wear outerwear throughout the building, during instructional time.



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### Uniform Violations

- If a student arrives at school out of uniform, students may be required to wear loaner clothes and/or shoes and parents will be notified.
- If a student is wearing an article of clothing that is out of uniform, the child may be required to remove them and the parent will be notified.
- After ten uniform violations, a parent/guardian conference may be required.

### Bathroom Accidents

- Parents of Kindergarten and 1st grade students are asked to send an extra pair of pants, underwear, and socks to school.
- If a child has an accident and does not have a change of clothes, we will provide loaner pants and underwear, and require it to be washed and returned to school. Parents will be charged for any items not returned after seven days.

### 2023-24 Uniform Purchasing

#### GLA School Store

- **Click [here](#)** to access the Great Lakes Academy School Store.
- *Please Note: You'll also see sweatpants and athletic short options in the store. Though sweatpants and athletic shorts are not part of our updated Uniform Policy, these items can be purchased and used by 5th-8th graders for gym class (this is optional).*

#### School Store Ordering Process

All school store orders will be completed in cycles. Here's how it works:

- Visit our virtual storefront [here](#)
- Make a purchase on the website
- Based on when your purchase is made (see "Order Windows" below), your order will be delivered and ready for pick-up at GLA\* in the "Pick-up Windows" listed:

GLA Cycle Dates		
Cycles	Order Windows	Pick-up Windows
Cycle 1	June 15 – June 30	July 19 – July 21
Cycle 2	July 1 – July 26	August 14 – August 16
Cycle 3	July 27 – September 1	September 20 – September 22
Cycle 4	September 2 – September 30	October 18 – October 20
Cycle 5	October 1 - November 10	November 29 – December 1
Cycle 6	November 11 – December 22	January 10 – January 12
Cycle 7	December 23 – February 2	February 22 – February 26
Cycle 8	February 3 – March 14	April 3 – April 5
Cycle 9	March 15 – April 30	May 17 – May 21
Cycle 10	May 1 – May 31	June 19 – June 21

\* Please Note:

- *Items will only be shipped to GLA*
- *Once the school year starts, GLA will distribute orders to students unless a request is made prior to the start of the pick-up window with the front office. Once given to a student, GLA is not responsible for any lost or damaged items.*

#### GLA-branded Polos

Parents can also purchase short sleeved, GLA-branded polos **directly from the school** (this is the quickest way to get a GLA-branded uniform piece). The price of these polos is \$15. Stop by the school this summer between 8:00-2:30 pm to purchase a polo. *Note: we will no longer sell any uniform pieces via Schoolbelles.*

