

## Westminster Lower School Uniform FAQs

### **What is the philosophy behind Westminster's uniform policy?**

School uniforms and the dress code are part of the Westminster culture. The Westminster dress code is based on the principles of order and simplicity. Although the uniform code is not meant to encourage conformity; rather, it is our goal that the uniform code helps to foster an environment that avoids unnecessary distractions, pressure, and comparison for students and faculty.

Additionally, the hope is students will seek to honor the uniform by dressing within the guidelines, instead of dressing as closely to a uniform violation as possible.

**What tennis shoes are approved for grades K-6<sup>th</sup>?** Tennis shoes should be in the solid colors of navy blue, red (true red, not neon), gray, white, or black. There should be no lights, patterns, or decorations, even if the pattern is in the approved colors. Shoes should not contain any colors other than the approved uniform colors. This include labels, emblems (no matter how small), laces, and soles. The goal is a solid color shoe that is not distracting. Please see examples below.



**What is the service project t-shirt?** A new t-shirt for service projects is now available on Lands' End. It is a navy shirt with the "Westminster Serves" logo. The t-shirt is optional. Students may wear it on service project days, or they may wear a solid navy t-shirt. The new navy shirt replaces the previous black service project t-shirt.

**What common issues arise with boys' uniforms?** Boys must wear a shirt long enough to be tucked in. Shirts must be tucked in at all times. A solid brown or braided leather belt is also required. Torn or ripped pants are not permitted.

**When can girls wear white tops?** Any time a girl wears a white top, it should be covered by either a jumper or a red sweater vest. It is never worn alone. Red polos may be worn without something on top.

**What if it is cold?** From Thanksgiving until Spring Break, girls may wear approved khaki pants (see uniform specifications) or tights. On chilly days prior to Thanksgiving or after Spring Break, girls may wear navy or white tights.

**What is approved outerwear?** Students may bring a jacket or sweater of choice to wear outside for recess and morning and afternoon carpool. However only approved outerwear is allowed at any other time during the school day. Approved outerwear includes a variety of Lands' End sweatshirts and sweaters outlined in the Uniform Specifications. Students will be asked to remove any unapproved outerwear that is worn in the classroom.

**What items are being phased out?** Each year there are minor adjustments to the uniform policy. These changes are based on changes in availability and needs. This year, the navy fleece vest and the navy jumper from Lands' End are being phased out. Students may still wear them during this school year, but they will no longer be available to order new.