INCARNATE WORD ACADEMY APPEARANCE AND UNIFORM POLICY
2026-2027 School Year

Our school uniform policy encourages students to focus on grooming that presents a positive image of our students and our school. Neatness, cleanliness, and modesty in dress and appearance are conducive to an academic atmosphere and are expected of all IWA students.

Faculty and administration reserve the right to determine if a student is dressed in a manner consistent with the IWA school uniform policy. **Parents will be notified by phone when a student is found to be in violation of the uniform policy. Parents will be asked to bring the appropriate uniform clothing to the school OR the school can provide the clothing from the Uniform R Us shop, if we have an item in stock.** This may result in a loss of class time. The administration reserves the right to revise, assess, and review this policy at any time. Students with make-up on will be asked to wash their face. If a student's hair violates the uniform policy, they will be given a warning that day. The student may not return to school until the hair meets our policy guidelines. The student will be marked absent until they return.

Apparel:

- Hair is to be well groomed and combed. **Haircuts for boys** should be above their ears, eyebrows, and collars. No fads, no shaved heads, no facial hair. Highlighting or dyeing of hair for either boys or girls is **not** permitted. Solid-colored or plaid complimentary to the uniform headbands, bows or scrunchies are allowed for girls.

- Socks are to be plain, solid-colored crew socks, knee socks or tights in colors complimentary to the uniform maroon, black, gray, navy or white. No show socks or socks with logos are **not** permitted.

- Shoes should be appropriate for school wear and solid in color.
  - o Brown, navy, black, or gray: loafers, boat shoes, or dress shoes
  - o All black athletic shoes
  - o Boots of any kind (fashion, construction, high or low tops) are not to be worn with a school uniform
  - o No heels, moccasins, or ballet shoes are allowed

- All sweaters (boys and girls) are to be solid color, white, maroon, blue or gray. Sweater styles can be crew, V neck or cardigan (no hoods, quarter zip, no logos, or insignias)

- IWA permits students to wear the maroon or gray quarter zip fleece pullover or the front zipper track jacket which are only available at Schoolbelles. **IWA Sweatshirts purchased from the online store may only be worn on gym days and "spirit days."**

- Ties are purchased at IWA. Ties are to be worn with a solid white button-down shirt, short or long sleeves. Grades K- 2 boys wear a pre-tied bow tie. Grades 3-8 boys wear a pre-tied long tie.

- No tattoos or body piercings. *Body piercings may be a part of one's religious practice. In these cases, parents should notify administration.

Accessories:

- Girls may wear one pair of small post earrings on the ear lobe, a watch and a simple necklace or bracelet. Make-up, nail polish or artificial nails are not allowed.
- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings, but a watch and a simple chain are permitted. *Earrings may be a part of one's religious practice. In these cases, parents should notify administration.
- Apple watches and any smartwatch that has technology and the capability to email, text etc. are not permitted.

Preparatory (grades 6-8) Privileges:

- Girls may add solid colored black leggings under skirt or kilt, along with socks
- Boys may wear patterned dress socks
- 8th graders may wear their class sweatshirt
- Beginning in January, 8th grade may wear their chosen high school sweatshirt or t-shirt on Fridays

Warm Weather Options for Kinder Prep- Grade 5 only

Please note that the warm weather options can only be worn from the first day of school in August to Oct. 31st and then again from May 1st to the last day of school. **These items are strictly optional and are not required.** Solid navy walking shorts pleated or flat front from Schoolbelles with a navy, brown, or black solid-color belt is a warm weather option for boys and girls.

Dress Code: Grades K-8:

Girls:

Plain white blouse with collar, either short or long sleeved or a banded knit polo with IWA logo, either short or long sleeved (available only at Schoolbelles). Primary Grades need to purchase a gray polo with an IWA emblem. Preparatory grades need to purchase a maroon polo with an IWA emblem. During cooler months, students may add the cardigan, vest, sweater, track jacket, or fleece from Schoolbelles to the blouse or polo.

- **Uniform Bottom- Option One:**

Kinder-Prep – 4: Are to wear the maroon & gray plaid jumper purchased at Schoolbelles, length no shorter than 2 inches above the knee, or plaid pants purchased at Schoolbelles

Grade 5 – 8: Are to wear a maroon & gray pleated skirt, or wrap around kilt purchased from Schoolbelles, length no shorter than 2 inches above the knee. If a student's skirt length is out of compliance more than 3 times in one school year, they will lose the privilege of wearing a skirt for the remainder of the year and will have to wear uniform compliant pants.

- **Uniform Bottom- Option Two**:

Kinder- Prep – 8: are permitted to wear plaid, plain navy-blue or black slacks, purchased from Schoolbelles along with belt

Boys:

Plain white button-down shirt, either short or long sleeved, with bow tie (K-2) or a tie (3-8) purchased from the office, or a knit polo with IWA logo either short or long sleeved. Shirts are to be tucked in. During cooler months, students may add the cardigan, vest, sweater, track jacket, or fleece from Schoolbelles to the white-button down shirt or polo.

- **Primary Grades** wear gray polo with school emblem purchased at Schoolbelles
- **Preparatory Grades** wear maroon polo with school emblem purchased at Schoolbelles
- All grades are to wear solid black or navy slacks with a solid color belt. Slacks are to be conservative, no baggy pants, cargo style, denim, or corduroy.

Physical Education Uniform

Grades K- 8 will wear the IWA Gym Uniform to school on their scheduled gym day. During warmer weather, students may wear the gym t-shirt and gym shorts to school. From Nov. 1st through May 1st, an IWA sweatshirt must be worn over the t-shirt and IWA sweatpants must be worn. Students may wear gym shorts under the sweatpants and remove the sweatpants during gym class.

- Gray IWA t-shirts and maroon shorts are purchased at IWA
- The track jacket, quarter zip fleece polo and sweatpants are purchased at Schoolbelles. Any IWA sweatshirt, sweatpants, or joggers purchased from the IWA online Spirit Shop are also acceptable.
- High-Tops shoes are not permitted.
- Light-up shoes are not permitted.
- Please purchase a tennis shoe that will provide support, cushioning, and flexibility for all running surfaces and a tread pattern.

Dress and Mass Uniform

All students are to be in Dress/Mass uniform on All School Mass days and for their scheduled Class Masses. **Students out of Dress/Mass Uniform compliance may lose the privilege of participating in dress down days.**

- Girls: Grades K- 4th wear a white blouse with a collar and jumper. Grades 5-8 are to wear a white blouse with collar, plaid skirt, kilt, or navy-blue slacks with vest from Schoolbelles. If slacks are worn, a navy, brown, or black solid color belt must be worn too.
- Boys: All grades are to wear white button-down dress shirt with bow tie (K-2) or tie (grades 3-8) purchased at IWA. A navy, brown, or black solid-color belt must be worn too.
- No Polo Shirts or shorts are permitted on Mass days

Dress Down or Days

When the students are permitted to "Dress Down", they must do so modestly, tastefully, and respectfully on designated dress down days only.

- Students may wear sweatpants, sweatshirts, or jeans (not torn or frayed). Low-cut or form fitting clothes are NOT appropriate. Tight pants and baggy pants are not appropriate.
- T-shirts (no inappropriate sayings or slogans that are identified with values contrary to IWA) may be worn
- During warm weather shorts or capris may be worn. Shorts may not be torn or frayed. Skirts, dresses, and shorts should be no more than 3 inches above the knee.
- Tank tops, sundresses (halter, spaghetti straps) are not permitted. Shoulders and midriffs **MUST** be covered.
- Yoga pants, athletic leggings, and leggings **are NOT** permitted.
- Hats and flip flops **are NOT** permitted
- Pajama tops and pants **are NOT** permitted

Monday Spirit Days

Students are permitted to add the following items to the uniform on Spirit Days (Mondays).

- **Students may add the following to the standard uniform bottoms**: any t-shirt, fleece, or sweatshirt purchased from an IWA extracurricular activity, IWA sporting team, or through the IWA online spirit shop. Students with gym on Mondays may still add the IWA Spirit top to the gym uniform bottoms.