



Upper Senior School – Expectations of Dress and Presentation

Students in the Upper Senior School (USS) at Dulwich College (Singapore) are not required to wear a standard school uniform, unlike their peers in the Lower and Middle Senior School; however, this privilege comes with the essential responsibility of adhering to our 'dress code' guidelines. Students are expected to dress in a manner that reflects high standards, serving as role models for younger students through exemplary dress and presentation. The key descriptors for this dress code are **smart**, **formal**, and **practical**, and staff members will challenge any student who does not meet these expectations.

Upper Senior School Dress

- Formal trousers or skirts are required. Skirts should be of a modest length that is suitable for a school environment. Jeans, cargo pants, shorts, and similarly casual styles are not permitted.
- Conventional shirts (long or short sleeves) or smart blouses/tops must be worn. Thin straps, sleeveless designs, crop tops, low-cut tops, and informal t-shirts or polo shirts are not allowed.
- A smart, formal jacket that matches the trousers or skirt is required for 'Best Dress' occasions.

General Guidelines

- Footwear: Shoes must be smart, closed-toed, and appropriate for a school environment. Sportswear or trainers are only allowed during Sport/PE activities. Shoes should feature a low heel-height.
- A smart, plain tie is expected as part of 'Best Dress.'
- Clothing should not reveal undergarments.

PE Uniform

- DCSG PE t-shirt (or House t-shirt for House events).
- DCSG PE skort or shorts, or plain black, opaque leggings (shin-length or longer).
- Sports socks and trainers are required.
- More detailed information about when to wear PE kit will be provided to students.

Accessories/Optional Items

- A plain (no bold logos), dark V-neck pullover or cardigan may be worn. Unofficial (non-DCSG) hoodies are not permitted.
- Hair should be clean, tidy, and styled to keep the face visible. Students with hair longer than shoulder length should have hair ties available. Hair must be tied up in certain situations for health and safety reasons.
- Simple jewelry is allowed so long as it does not present a health and safety risk or cause offense. Jewelry may need to be removed in certain situations.
- Simple make-up and well-maintained nail varnish are permitted. Nail extensions that pose a health and safety risk are not allowed.



For security and safeguarding reasons, students must wear their gold Upper Senior School lanyards at all times, including during PE and House uniform days.

Best Dress

'Best Dress' is required for formal occasions, school assemblies, and when representing the College. Students should keep 'Best Dress' items accessible in their tutor rooms. Students in leadership positions may receive uniform items that denote their roles and are expected to wear these during formal occasions.

Cultural Sensitivity

Students are encouraged to respect our multicultural and diverse community when making choices about their dress. This is essential for fostering an inclusive environment for all.

Managing Expectations

Managing expectations of dress is a challenging task for both the school and the students. While these guidelines aim to clarify what is expected, there will inevitably be nuances that exist beyond clear-cut definitions, which can lead to misunderstanding and disagreement. Our enforcement of a dress code supports students in preparing for life in more professional settings, acknowledges their status as senior students, and highlights the connection between smart dress and their sense of pride and respect for themselves and their school. These expectations have been developed through consultation with students, pastoral staff, and the Heads of Senior School and College, and they aim to provide students with a sense of choice and self-expression while allowing them to focus more on their studies than their wardrobe. Any issues will be addressed directly with the students, initially by their tutor. Final decisions will be made by the Head of Year or the Deputy Head (USS) or Head of Senior School.

Examples of Upper Senior School dress:

