

Updates to the PE uniform for 2018-2019

Several years ago, we made slight changes to the standards for khaki options in the everyday school uniform that improved uniformity and provided families with a broad selection of brands to choose from. This year we are making similar changes to the PE uniform.

Some of our options are difficult to find in stores (e.g., plain navy or gray shirts). We have observed that offering that option has only led to bad habits: students wearing non-uniform shirts inside out in the hope that they will go unnoticed. Other requirements, especially with the pants/shorts, have been too ambiguous for teachers to monitor consistently with the result that students no longer looked remotely close to uniform.

The changes noted below, then, are aimed at making the uniform more uniform, keeping shorts appropriately sized (i.e., no short shorts), simplifying monitoring for teachers, and providing families with as many options for purchasing as possible.

Updated requirements for PE (changes appear in boldface type):

- **Trinitas t-shirt** (orders will be taken at Parent Orientation Night)
- Navy, gray, or black PE shorts: **Lands' End "Uniform Mesh Shorts" or must match Lands' End (plain solid of the same length and style, no stripes).**
- Navy, gray, or black athletic pants: **Lands' End "Active Track Pant", "Uniform Sweatpants", or "French Terry Jogger Pant" or must match these (plain solid of the same style, no stripes).** No leggings, yoga pants, or **running tights.**
- White, navy, gray, or black athletic socks
- Recess/gym shoes

At Trinitas, we believe that uniforms are helpful for numerous reasons, even in PE class. In our experience, they contribute to a sense of community, help minimize the perception of socio-economic differences among students, and convey to students that there is a difference between being at school and being at the neighborhood playground.

Although teachers hold the students responsible for bringing and wearing the appropriate uniform, parents have a significant amount of control over how their children are dressed when they arrive at school and what items they pack in their backpacks if a change of uniform is required during the day. Please make sure children are dressed in the proper uniform and have the necessary items to change into before they leave home. This will help students form good habits and make things much simpler for teachers and parents alike.