

Dress Code

Purpose

The Academy has a designated uniform dress code for all students in Kindergarten through 8th grades. Home schooled children, enrolled in *The Home School Connection*, are asked to honor the dress code. The purpose of the dress code is to promote modesty and uniformity. Clothes that are too casual tend to set a mood of recreation which does not create a positive learning atmosphere. We expect our students to be dressed in a manner that lends itself to an atmosphere of Christian learning. The responsibility of dress code compliance is in the home. When the home does not properly monitor student's dress, the Academy must get involved.

It is not possible to cover every possible hairstyle or clothing combination. If you have any questions regarding the dress code, please contact the school office, your child's teacher or administration for clarification. Ask before you purchase any item you are uncertain may not comply with dress code.

The Head of School or his/her appointee reserves the right to make all final decisions in regard to the dress code. Non-compliance will result in Uniform Violation and additional consequences. See *Dress Code Violations*.

Regular Uniform

- Khaki uniform slacks (pants). Khaki uniform shorts (no cargo, stretch shorts, or jeggings) may be worn from the beginning of school until September 30 and from April 15 until the end of school.
- Black or brown belt
- Hunter green polo shirt, short or long sleeve
- If desired for cold weather, hunter green uniform sweater or sweater vest (no sweatshirts)
- All-black sneakers or black or brown shoes
- Socks should always be worn

Note: there is no separate uniform policy for chapel days. This is the uniform for every day except for a student's gym day. Skirts and jumpers are no longer part of the school uniform.

Gym Attire

The gym uniform will be worn all day on the student's gym day. Students will not change at school.

- Black athletic pants with white stripe(s), or Hunter green gym shorts, or Grey sweatpants (**NO** tights or form fitting sweatpants)
- Grey t-shirt (shirt with HCA logo preferred, available from DiGiulio's)

- Sneakers (low cut styles are preferred)
- White ankle or calf-length athletic style socks

Being unprepared for gym will result in a dress code uniform notice. Three uniform notices will result in a detention. After a student receives 2 violations the student may not be permitted to participate in the next school or PTF sponsored dress down, including class trip dress downs when appropriate.

Dress and Appearance Standards

The following standards apply for all students, for both the regular and gym uniforms, and on dress-down days. These standards don't cover every possibility, but the principle is *Christian modesty*. The Head of School has the authority to determine what is appropriate. If you have questions, please feel free to ask.

- No tight pants, tights, or leggings. Sweat pants should be baggy and not form fitting. Shorts should be loose athletic or basketball shorts or similar.
- For the regular or gym uniform, shorts should come to just above the knee. Short shorts are not allowed.
- Shoelaces must be tied.
- No jackets or sweatshirts may be worn in the classroom.
- No hats may be worn in the buildings
- Hairstyles must be traditional, neat and well groomed. Colored hair must be a natural color that is not extreme or draws undue attention. Boys hairstyles must be short and evenly tapered or blocked in the back; hair may not touch the collar, ears or eyebrows. Boys with braids or cornrows must keep their hair neatly groomed and off the collar. Boys must be clean shaven.
- Girls may wear earrings (one in each ear), but the earrings may not dangle more than 1 inch in length. Boys may not wear earrings. Body piercing is not permitted for either boys or girls.
- Tattoos are not permitted.
- Make-up is not allowed in Elementary Grades (K-5). Girls in Middle School (6-8) may wear light, modest make-up, limited to blush, lip-gloss and mascara.
- Girls may wear nail polish in clear or light colors.

Dress Code Violations

The dress code will be strictly enforced. Teachers are primarily responsible to make sure that the dress code is strictly enforced. Students that do not meet the dress code will be given a dress code/uniform notice. Students who are unprepared for Gym will receive a dress code/uniform notice. After a student receives 2 violations the student may not be permitted to participate in the next school or PTF sponsored dress down, including class trip dress downs when appropriate. After three dress code/uniform notices, a detention will be served. Any student that is severely violating the dress code will be sent to the School Office. At the school office, they will have to call their parents and wait until the parents bring satisfactory clothing. Any class time missed will be unexcused.

Casual or Special Event Dress

During the school year there are certain days when the students are not required to wear their school uniforms. Casual dress days include some field trips as designated by the teacher, overnight retreats, school Spirit Day, the Spring Fair. Special dress up events may include recitals and banquets. Teachers will notify students of the acceptable dress attire for the occasion (i.e. casual or special). Any student that violates the dress code will be sent to the School Office and may not participate in the school activity. At the school Office, the student will have to call his/her parent and wait until the parent brings satisfactory clothing.

- Tops:** Appropriately fitting short/long sleeve shirts or sweaters. See **WARM WEATHER DRESS OPTION.**
No exposed bra straps.
Tops must cover shoulders
No low cut tops
No writing or pictures of any kind that conflicts with the standards of the Academy may be displayed on the clothing.
- Pants/Shorts:** Appropriately fitting casual pants or shorts. No tight or form fitting shorts or pants permitted unless worn under a top/dress which is no shorter than 3" above the knee.
Shorts may be no more than 2" above the knee.
No pants with rips, tears, or fringed hems.
Girls may wear Capris during the warm weather dress period for casual dress.
- Skirts:** May not be shorter than 2" above the knee
- Shoes:** Sneakers with socks, crew, athletic or ankle.
No Sandals, Flip Flops, Clogs.
No Dress Shoes with heels over 1"
- Dresses:** No exposed bra straps.
Shoulders must be covered by the dress or by a sweater.
No low cut dresses
May not be shorter than 2" above the knee

For special dress events boys may be asked to wear a tie and jacket depending on the occasion.