



CLEVELAND PREPARATORY ACADEMY

UNIFORM AND DRESS CODE POLICY

While fashion changes, the reason for being in school does not. School is a place of learning and students should dress accordingly. The purposes of the dress code are to enhance the learning environment by promoting school safety and good behavior and to avoid discipline problems related to the peer pressure of indulging in the latest fashion trends.

The staff and administration insist that students wear their uniforms properly. **This includes tucking shirts in. Parents and students are equally responsible for the appearance of the student.**

School uniforms are to be worn daily except on picture days (when indicated) or other special event days. Uniform specifics are described on the following pages. Extreme variance in student attire will not be allowed. This includes tying shirts, sagging pants, shirt tails un-tucked, shirts of another color under the uniform shirt and any other variances the administration deems inappropriate. **In addition, jackets, hoodies and pullovers are not permitted to be worn inside the School building during School hours.**

GENERAL GUIDELINES

In addition to the specifics of the policy on the following pages, these general guidelines are to be followed on a daily basis. Final decisions on what is acceptable are made by the administration. Specific exceptions may be given by the administration for certain occasions.

- **All clothing must fit neatly and be clean.**
- **Tops must be long enough to be tucked into bottoms, including when arms are raised overhead as well as when seated.**
- **Skirts, skorts and shorts should be fingertip length or longer (no more than three inches above the kneecap).**
- **No writing, pictures or embellishments on any clothing.**
- **Footwear must be worn at all times and adequately secure to the foot. No sandals, flip flops, slides, or any shoe that exposes the toes or heel.**
- **Students are encouraged to leave expensive clothing or accessories at home. The School is not responsible for items which are lost, stolen or damaged.**
- **Athletic shoes may be worn but must conform to all dress code guidelines (black, brown, navy or white)**
- **Clothing or appearance that is NOT acceptable includes the following:**
- **Plunging necklines (no exposed cleavage or midriffs)**
- **Any clothing, jewelry (including beads and mardi gras necklaces) or other item which identifies a student as a member of a gang**
- **Rolled or pulled up pant leg(s)**
- **Denim material jeans**
- **Over-sized clothing, saggy or baggy pants**
- **Form fitting or hipster pants**
- **Any material that is sheer or lightweight enough to see through**
- **Over-sized or "noisy" jewelry (such as bangles)**
- **Mouth jewelry**

Please review the dress code policy carefully. We will strictly enforce the dress code as well as the consequences for not adhering to the dress code. Parents will be notified by phone and provided written notification when their child is out of dress code. The parent must bring a change of clothing to the school. **THE STUDENT WILL MISS OUT ON LEARNING BY BEING REMOVED FROM THE CLASSROOM UNTIL HE/SHE IS IN DRESS CODE.** Failure to abide by the dress code is a violation of the school's Code of Conduct. Continued disregard of the dress code policy may be grounds for suspension.

DRESS CODE

All students are expected to come to school in clean and properly fitting uniforms with their hair styled neatly and with proper hygiene. Daily personal grooming is important. Pride in one's appearance is the first step in gaining self-esteem and confidence. Moreover, limiting distractions associated with inappropriate or unusual dress and personal style promotes a positive learning environment. Parents will be contacted if a student is out of uniform or comes to school poorly groomed. The student dress code is an important part of the school program and philosophy. In making the choice to attend the School, the student (with parent support) agrees to follow all dress code requirements. Not choosing to follow the dress code

may lead to suspension or expulsion. The teacher and instructional aide are the prime enforcers of this policy. Occasionally, the building Administrator may have a building “dress-down” day when students and staff may dress down (in reasonable fashion).

The student dress code is as follows:

Girls

- White, light blue, or navy blue solid colored polo shirts/blouses (long or short sleeve);
- undergarments must also be solid colored (e.g., t-shirts);
- Black, navy, or khaki skirts, skorts, jumpers, or slacks. NO COLORED DENIM may be worn. Skirts, skorts, and jumpers must be knee length. No floor length dresses, jeans, sweat pants, overalls, leggings or jeggings. Uniform shorts may be worn during the months of April through September only; Uniform shorts are black, navy, or khaki and must be knee length
- Black or brown belts must be worn with slacks with belt loops;
- No headscarves (except for religious observance)
- Students may not wear “yoga” pants or tights as pants even on dress down days.
- Dress shoes or plain white or black tennis shoes may be worn. – No, moccasins, sandals or boots; shoes must be closed toed shoes. Girls may not wear high heels
- Socks or tights must be worn at all times:
- Studs for earrings (one per ear) and wristwatches are permitted; otherwise no other jewelry (including body piercing jewelry) of any kind, is permitted;
- No make-up of any kind; and
- Writing or pictures are not permitted on any clothing – no see-through clothing of any kind.

Boys

- White, light blue, or navy blue solid colored polo shirts (long or short sleeve);
- undergarments must also be solid colored (e.g., t-shirts);
- Black, navy, or khaki slacks. NO COLORED DENIM may be worn. No jeans or sweat pants. Uniform shorts may be worn during the months of April through September only;
- Black or brown belts must be worn around the waist (no “sagging”);
- Dress shoes or plain white tennis shoes may be worn. – No deck shoes, moccasins, sandals or boots; shoes must be closed toed shoes.
- Socks must be worn at all times:
- Studs for earrings (one per ear) and wristwatches are permitted; otherwise no other jewelry (including body piercing jewelry) of any kind for any reason is permitted; and
- No writing or pictures are not permitted on any clothing – no see-through clothing of any kind.

Boys and Girls

- Only solid colored white, gray, navy, black, or beige knitted cardigans or knitted pullover sweaters are allowed - **no sweatshirts or hoodies**;
- Students may not come to school with unusual “fad” haircuts or unnatural hair coloring.
- **No designs** may be cut into the hair. Natural haircuts are the accepted style. All hairstyles must be neat and clean; and
- Tattoos must be covered at all times.
- School administration may make changes to the dress code during the school year if there is an article of clothing that is being worn that is a disruption to the learning environment. The school administration will first notify parents in writing that the changes are to be made. Students are expected to comply with changes that have been appropriately communicated.

Boys and Girls Physical Education Class Dress Code

All grades:

- Tennis shoes must be worn on scheduled physical education days.