



Upper School Uniform Guidelines

2024-2025

Revisions

The Headmaster of the Academy maintains the right to amend these guidelines during the course of the year when it is deemed necessary. If this is the case, changes will be posted on the Academy's website.

GreatHearts[®]
Forest Heights

UNIFORM & DRESS CODE

Great Hearts Academy has a primary objective of developing a "community of learners," dedicated to the highest standards of academics and deportment. As such, a distinctive uniform is a unifying factor in our school community, a visible signature of our school to the larger community, and an indicator of our unity and pride of purpose. This is one of the most important functions of a uniform: it identifies its wearer as part of a distinctive group with a distinctive purpose. It is a reminder to the wearer of that purpose and of one's responsibility to that group.

While students are responsible for their clothing and appearance, it is parents and caregivers who are responsible for providing the conditions required to meeting the standard, i.e. correct shoes and properly fitting clothing. The adults in our students lives are urged to understand the uniform requirements, and to ensure that their children go to school each day in the correct attire, from head to toe. It is an uncomfortable experience for a student to be corrected for a uniform violation, and they will be required to comply before returning to school day activities.

Our uniform is the basis of a dress code with a professional, business-like standard. Students should dress their best, look their best, and do their best. All clothing must be clean, neat, reasonably pressed, and properly fitting. If a scholar is deemed to be wearing inappropriate attire, the parent will be notified and a change of clothing may be required for attendance that day. If in doubt about the appropriateness of an article of clothing, check with the Dean of Students prior to purchasing.

Judgement about the appropriateness of apparel may be referred to the Headmaster, whose decision will be final. The school will make specific exceptions to the dress code as required by particular religious customs. Parents should address specific concerns to the Dean of Students before the second week of school.

Students must stay in uniform whenever they are on campus (including the parking lot) during the school day. This means arriving on campus *fully* in uniform and leaving campus *fully* in uniform (correct shoes, shirts tucked in, etc.). Students may only change into practice uniforms after school with teacher/coach permission to participate in an approved curricular or extracurricular activity that requires a change in dress.

Parents must provide their student(s) with the required uniform, except in the case of educationally disadvantaged students as provided in the Texas Education Code. The Academy may provide a uniform for such students. A request for school assistance for purchasing uniforms must be made in writing to the Headmaster and include evidence of the inability to pay. Please, contact the Business Clerk for more information.

Purchasing Note: Some components of the uniform must be purchased from Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara, other items may be purchased from any vendor.

UPPER SCHOOL BOYS UNIFORMS

6th-8th Grade Boys

Required:

- Polo Shirt with Logo - Short or Long Sleeved
Color: White or Navy
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Khaki Shorts or Pants
Vendor: Any
- Leather/Vegan Leather Belt with Buckle
Color: Black or Brown
Vendor: Any
- PE. Uniform: See **guidelines below**



Optional:

- Navy Pullover Sweater or Sweater Vest with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Quarter-zip Sweatshirt with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Full Zip Fleece Jacket with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara



Pants: All pants must reach to the shoe, but should not drag on the ground. Pants must have belt loops and a solid (non-woven), black or brown leather belt must be used. **No jeans (including khaki-colored denim) or pants with externally sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean-like characteristics are permitted.** Dickies, cargo pants, oversized pants, super-baggy pants, dungarees, extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams **will not** be permitted. Pants should not have visible reinforced knee patches.

Shorts: Shorts should hit just above the knee but not below, and neither excessively tight nor loose fitting. Shorts are to be worn at the waist. Boxers and/or undergarments **may not be visible** (including at sports practices and games). Shorts must have belt loops and a solid (non-woven), black or brown leather belt must be used. **No jean shorts (including khaki-colored denim) or shorts with externally sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean like characteristics are permitted.** Dickies, cargo shorts, oversized shorts, super-baggy shorts, extra pockets, extra zippers, and extra seams **will not be** permitted.

9th-12th Grade Boys (Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, & Seniors)

Required:

- White Oxford Shirt with Logo - Short or Long Sleeved
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Khaki Shorts or Pants
Vendor: Any
- Leather/Vegan Leather Belt with Buckle
Color: Black or Brown
Vendor: Any
- Great Hearts School Tie (not worn daily)
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- PE. Uniform: **See guidelines below**



Optional:

- Navy Pullover Sweater or Sweater Vest with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Quarter-zip Sweatshirt with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Full Zip Fleece Jacket with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara



Shirts: Shirts must stay tucked both in front and back in during natural movement throughout the school day (i.e. raising one's hand). Shirts should fit properly: too tight shirts gap in the front. No more than the top two buttons may remain unbuttoned.

Pants: All pants must reach to the shoe, but should not drag on the ground. Pants must have belt loops and a solid (non-woven), black or brown leather belt must be used. **No jeans (including khaki-colored denim) or pants with externally sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean-like characteristics are permitted.** Dickies, cargo pants, oversized pants, super-baggy pants, dungarees, extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams **will not** be permitted. Pants should not have visible reinforced knee patches.

Shorts: Shorts should hit just above the knee but not below, and neither excessively tight nor loose fitting. Shorts are to be worn at the waist. Boxers and/or undergarments **may not be visible** (including at sports practices and games). Shorts must have belt loops and a solid (non-woven), black or brown leather belt must be used. **No jean shorts (including khaki-colored denim) or shorts with externally sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean like characteristics are permitted.** Dickies, cargo shorts, oversized shorts, super-baggy shorts, extra pockets, extra zippers, and extra seams **will not be** permitted.

Upper School P.E. Uniform (6th , 7th , & 9th Graders):

Required:

- Gray Tee Shirt with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Athletic Shorts with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara



Optional Cold Weather Items:

- Sweatshirt with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Sweatpants with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara

Note: Athletic shoes for P.E. only may have colors other than black or white.

Upper School Boys Accessory Guidelines

White undershirts may be worn underneath the school uniform shirt but should not be visible. Socks must be a solid color: white, black, navy, or dark brown, extend above the ankle and be free of visible brand logos, patterns, or decorations.

Boys may wear any of the following pieces of jewelry:

A single chain/necklace, not visible above the collar

A simple watch - **smart watches are not permitted**

One simple, tasteful bracelet without logo

One simple, tasteful ring

Piercings are not permitted.

Grooming for Boys

Boys' Hair: Hair should be neatly combed or styled so that it does not fall below the eyebrows or past the midpoint of the ear. Hair must be above the top of the shirt collar. Hair must be natural looking and conservative in its color and cut (no bleaching or unnatural streaking/highlighting, no artificial jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors). Hair that is too long to meet the above standards may be kept in a tight, tidy (no 'fly-away' strands of hair), conservative 'bun' or pony-tail on the back of the head. Accommodations for religious reasons are permitted.

Facial Hair: Boys are not allowed to wear any makeup and should be clean shaven daily. Beards and/or mustaches are prohibited. Noticeable facial hair such as "stubble," "peach fuzz," and "5 o'clock shadows" are not allowed.

UPPER SCHOOL BOYS SHOE POLICY

(Updated for 2023-2024)

Example of shoes that may be worn by boys:

Dark brown or black laced leather or vegan leather dress shoes with dark soles (Oxfords, Derbys); Dark brown or black leather or vegan leather loafer dress shoes (slip-on); Solid ALL black or white athletic shoes (no high tops).

Students will be required to wear dress shoes for certain school events.

As a reminder, dress shoes require periodic hand cleaning and polishing/conditioning.



Examples of shoes that are not permitted:

Semi-casual shoes, shoes that are a cross between dress shoes and sneakers (*Sketcher's* and similar styles), boat shoes, suede shoes, high-top shoes, boots, canvas shoes, etc.



UPPER SCHOOL GIRLS UNIFORMS

6th-8th Grades Girls

Required:

- Polo Shirt with Logo - Short or Long Sleeved
Color: White or Navy
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Plaid (navy blue and khaki) skirt with modesty short
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- PE. Uniform: **See guidelines below**



Optional:

- Khaki Shorts or Pants with black or brown Belt
Vendor: Any
- Navy Cardigan Sweater with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Pullover Sweater or Sweater Vest with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Quarter-zip Sweatshirt with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Full Zip Fleece Jacket with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara



Skirts: The skirt hem may be no higher than just above the knee, both in front and in back. To measure a correct skirt length: properly adjust the skirt at the waist, kneel on a level surface, and measure at most two inches between skirt's hem and the floor. Skirts must be worn at the waist.

Pants: Full-length, straight leg or boot cut khaki pants may be worn; those which are form-fitting down the leg and ankle ("skinny" style) are not allowed. Pants must have belt loops and be worn with a solid, dark belt at least 3/4" wide. Hems must reach to the shoe but should not drag on the ground. No jeans (including khaki-colored denim), pants with external sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean-like characteristics are permitted. No extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams will be permitted.

Shorts: Shorts should go to just above the knee but not below, and neither excessively tight or loose fitting. Shorts must be worn with a dark, solid belt at least 3/4" wide. No jean shorts (including khaki-colored denim) or shorts with external sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean like characteristics are permitted. No cargo shorts, baggy shorts, extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams will be permitted.

9th-12th Grades Girls

Required:

- White Short Sleeved Blouse or Long Sleeved Oxford Shirt with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Plaid (navy blue and khaki) skirt with modesty short
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- PE. Uniform: **See guidelines below**



Optional:

- Khaki Shorts or Pants with Belt
Vendor: Any
- Navy Cardigan Sweater with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Pullover Sweater or Sweater Vest with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Quarter-zip Sweatshirt with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Full Zip Fleece Jacket with Logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara



Blouses: Long sleeved Oxford blouses must stay tucked in during natural movement throughout the school day (i.e. raising one's hand). Tailored-cut blouses may be untucked but must extend past the waistband of the uniform bottoms enough so that normal movement does not reveal skin. Blouses should fit properly, and not too tight so that they gap between the buttons. If this happens, a student should wear a camisole under the blouse until she is able to correct the fit. No more than the top two buttons may remain unbuttoned.

Skirts: The skirt hem must be just above the knee, both in front and in back. To measure a correct skirt length: properly adjust the skirt at the waist, kneel on a level surface, and measure at most two inches between skirt's hem and the floor. Skirts must be worn at the waist.

Pants: Full-length, straight leg or boot-cut khaki pants may be worn; form-fitting down the leg and ankle ("skinny" style) are not allowed. Pants must have belt loops and be worn with a solid, dark belt at least 3/4" wide. Hems must reach the shoe but not drag on the ground. No jeans (including khaki-colored denim), pants with external sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean-like characteristics are permitted. No extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams will be permitted.

Shorts: Shorts should go to just above the knee but not below, and neither excessively tight or loose fitting. Shorts must be worn with a dark, solid belt at least 3/4" wide. No jean shorts (including khaki-colored denim) or shorts with external sewn pockets, rivets, or other jean like characteristics are permitted. No cargo shorts, baggy shorts, extra pockets, extra zippers, or extra seams will be permitted.

Upper School P.E. Uniform (6th , 7th , & 9th Graders):

Required:

- Gray Tee Shirt with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Navy Athletic Shorts with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara



Optional Cold Weather Items:

- Sweatshirt with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara
- Sweatpants with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or FlynnO'Hara

Note: Athletic shoes for P.E. only may have colors other than black or white.

Upper School Girls Accessory Guidelines

Nylons or tights must be non-patterned, opaque, and solid black or navy in color.

Socks may be solid navy, white, or black in color. No-show socks are not permitted.

Girls may wear any of the following pieces of jewelry:

One pair of short earrings (not longer than ½ inch below the ear lobe) on the ear lobes.

Hoops may not be larger than the size of a nickel. Large hoops, dangling, or distracting earrings are not permitted. No body-piercing other than single lobe piercings are permitted.

One simple ring on each hand

One wrist bracelet,

One watch - **smart watches are not permitted**

One necklace: thin, silver or gold chain (16"-20") with or without a small (1") pendant.

Chokers, beaded necklaces, leather necklaces, shells, large or elaborate chain-link, large or elaborate pendants are not permitted.

Grooming for Girls

Girls' Hair: Hair should be neatly combed or styled. Neat small bows, barrettes, headbands, and hair ties that coordinate with the uniform are permissible. Hair must be natural looking and conservative in color and cut (no bleaching or unnatural streaking/highlighting, no artificial jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors). Accommodations for religious reasons are permitted.

Makeup: Girls may wear subtle makeup only if it is applied tastefully and in moderation. Heavily lined eyes, false eyelashes, glittered or white powdered faces, and garish lipstick will not be permitted. Fingernails should not be excessively long or painted garishly. Fingernails may only be painted in light pink, classic red, and white. Tasteful French manicures are acceptable. No shades of blue, green, yellow, purple, orange, gray, brown or black are permissible, nor are glittered, speckled, or patterned nail polish.

UPPER SCHOOL GIRLS SHOE POLICY

(Updated for 2023-2024)

Examples of shoes that may be worn by girls:

Black, dark brown, or dark navy with dark soles; leather or vegan leather dress shoe with a heel of less than 1.5 inches and low sole; Oxfords with a leather sole; penny loafers; non-athletic leather or vegan leather saddle shoes that are white and black/blue; solid ALL black or white athletic shoes (no high tops).

Students will be required to wear dress shoes for certain school events.

As a reminder, dress shoes require periodic hand cleaning and polishing/conditioning.

The shoes may have a simple ornament the same color of the shoe, silver or gold color; no rhinestones, glitter, or patterned uppers.



The following styles are **examples of shoes that are not permitted**: High top athletic shoes, boots, moccasins, elaborate or large decoration, patterned uppers and cloth slippers.



ADDITIONAL STANDARDS FOR ALL STUDENTS

Student IDs: School provided Student IDs attached to the school provided break-away lanyard must be worn at all times on campus from arrival to exit. Lanyards must be worn around the neck. PE and Athletic Coaches will direct students when they should remove their Student IDs for class and practice. Medical or religious accommodations should be discussed with the Dean of Students. Student IDs must be worn during any off campus School sponsored event (e.g. field trips).

Scholars will not be permitted to attend class without their Student ID. If a Student ID is lost/misplaced/stolen, a loaner ID will be provided for two school days as a grace period to locate it. If not found by the start of the third school day, a new Student ID will be printed and the expense charged to the family.

Outerwear (including sweatshirts):

Inside the Academic Building: Official school sweaters as described in the uniform guidelines are the only outerwear allowed to be worn in the school building. The uniform sweaters, vest, and quarter-zip sweatshirt and half-zip fleece may be worn year-round throughout the school day. Blankets are not appropriate outerwear.

Outside the Academic Building: Students must store their outerwear in their lockers before the start of first period. Outwear should be tasteful, in good repair, and free from any reference inappropriate for school. Jackets and sweatshirts (including spirit jackets/hoodies with the GHFH logo) may only be worn outside for warmth. Only GHFH sweatshirts and “hoodie” options are permitted on campus; fashion industry sweatshirts, pullovers, and hoodies are not.

Miscellaneous: Hats and sunglasses will not be worn in the building. Hats worn outside are allowed but it is up to the faculty on duty to determine if the hat worn has become a distraction to GHFH purpose and mission by being tattered, distasteful, or referencing pop culture. Pimple Patches or bandaids of any kind need to be flesh colored or clear and free from pop culture references. No tattoos, temporary or permanent are permitted. This includes ink and marker drawings on skin. No oversized or baggy clothing will be permitted.

Spirit Days

There will be designated days throughout the year on which students may wear a school spirit shirt with their regular pants, skirt, or shorts. Any shirt from a GHFH school-sponsored sport, club, or event is considered an official spirit shirt and may be worn on designated spirit days.

Dress Code for Athletics and Field Day

Specific athletic team uniforms will be provided for each member by coaches. Coaches, at their discretion, may adjust team game and practice uniforms as needed.

Students may choose to wear the PE uniform or GHFH Athletic Practice uniform for athletic practices and field day. All shirts worn for athletic practices and field day should be modest, loose fitting, in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.), either tucked in or well over the waist of the pants/shorts if not tucked in. No midriffs may be shown. T-shirts are preferred—no tank tops, camisoles, or sports bras may be worn as outer garments.

Pants/shorts should be modest, in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.). Pants/shorts should be worn at the waist and should be no shorter than mid-thigh, and no longer than just below the knee. No short-shorts or long baggy shorts may be worn. No boxers or undergarments may be visible.

Footwear should be athletic in nature: no sandals, open-toed, or platform shoes. Hats and sunscreen may be appropriate, if the students will be in the sun. Hat styles should follow the same guidelines as above.



Dress Code for School Concerts

Specific guidelines for attire can be provided by teachers or concert coordinators.

Boys: Black dress pants. Black belt. White long sleeve Oxford style shirt. Dark necktie. Black socks black dress shoes.

Girls: Black or dark, modest-length dress, skirt, or dress pants with a white blouse top. A sweater must be worn over sleeveless tops or dresses. Dress shoes or dress sandals.

Semi-Formal Events Dress Code

Special moments in the life of the Academy, including dances and end-of-year ceremonies (such as promotion), are signified by semi-formal dress. Specific guidelines for attire for semi-formal events will be communicated as events are scheduled and announced.