

Section 5.3. Dress Code and Uniform Guidelines

5.3.1. Uniforms and Citizenship

Great Hearts Texas seeks to cultivate a community of learners dedicated to high standards of character, scholarship, and citizenship. The school uniform is an important expression of this shared life, promoting dignity, unity, and an orderly environment conducive to learning. By reducing distractions in attire, the uniform helps direct attention toward academic and personal formation rather than outward appearance.

Students are expected to comply with uniform and grooming standards while on campus, at school-sponsored events, and whenever representing the Academy. Parents share responsibility for ensuring that students arrive at school in the proper uniform and maintain a neat and appropriate appearance. Students who do not meet uniform expectations may be required to correct the deficiency before participating in school activities.

The Academy will make reasonable accommodations for religious observance, medical needs, and protected hairstyles as required by law. The Headmaster may authorize modified attire for special events, field trips, athletic activities, or other school purposes. Families experiencing financial hardship may contact the Academy regarding available assistance. Specific uniform expectations for your Academy are featured in the chapter entitled Campus Procedures.

Section 2.2. Campus Procedures

2.2.9. 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 one's responsibility to that purpose.

While students are responsible for their clothing and appearance, it is parents and caregivers who are responsible for providing the conditions required to meet the standard, i.e. correct shoes and properly fitting clothing. The adults in our students' lives are urged to understand the uniform requirements and ensure that their children go to school each day in the correct attire, from head to toe.

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 fit. 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 on that day. If in

doubt about the appropriateness of an article of clothing, check with the Dean of Students prior to purchasing.

Judgement of 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, ID, etc.). Students may only change into practice uniforms after school with teacher/coach permission to participate in an approved curricular or extracurricular activity.

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 may be made through the FRL program

Student IDs:

School provided IDs are part of a student's uniform and professional appearance. They must be attached to the school provided lanyard, always worn around the neck and unobscured by clothing or accessories while on campus. Medical or religious accommodations should be discussed with the Dean of Students. Missing, modifying, trading or defacing school IDs will result in a uniform infraction.

Shirts:

Polo and Oxford Shirts must stay tucked both in front and back. Shirts should fit properly: too tight a shirt will gap in the front, and small shirts will expose skin at waistline during natural movement throughout the day. No more than the top two buttons may remain unbuttoned.

Blouses:

Long sleeved Oxford blouses must stay tucked in front and back. 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. All blouses should fit properly: too tight a shirt will gap in the front, and small shirts will expose skin at waistline during natural movement throughout the day. No more than the top two buttons may remain unbuttoned. If the current fit of a blouse prevents modesty a student may wear a camisole under the blouse until she is able to correct the fit.

Skirts:

The skirt hem must be no higher than 2” above the knee, both in front and in back. Skirts must be worn at the waist.

Pants:

All pants must reach 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. Cargo pants, oversized pants, super-baggy or tight 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 on the waist. Boxers and/or undergarments may not be visible (including 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 jeanlike characteristics are permitted. Cargo shorts, oversized shorts, super-baggy or snug shorts, extra pockets, extra zippers, and extra seams will not be permitted.

Outerwear:

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 prohibited.

Outside the Academic Building

Outwear should be tasteful, in good repair, and free from any pop-culture reference. Only GHFH sweatshirts and “hoodie” options are permitted on campus. Students must store their outerwear in their lockers before the start of first period. Outerwear (including spirit jackets/hoodies with the GHFH logo) may only be worn outside for warmth. Non GHFH outerwear winter coats are permitted outside only in winter months or extreme cold weather conditions and free from pop-culture reference.

Hats and sunglasses will not be worn in the building. Hats and sunglasses worn outside are allowed but it is up to the faculty on duty to determine if the item worn has become a distraction to GHFH purpose and mission by being tattered, distasteful, or referencing pop culture

PE & Team Athletics:

Standard:

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



Optional Cold Weather Items:

- Sweatshirt with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or FlynnO'Hara
- Sweatpants with Great Hearts logo
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or FlynnO'Hara

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 the GHFH Athletic Practice uniform.

All shirts worn for athletic practices and field day should be modest, loose fitting, in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.), either tucked or well over the waist of the pants/shorts if not tucked in. No midribs, 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.



in

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.

Tattoos:

No tattoos, temporary or permanent, are permitted to be seen- including ink/marker drawings on skin.

Upper School Uniform: Male Specifics

Required:

6th-8th Grade Boys Shirt

- Polo Shirt with Logo - Short or Long Sleeved
Color: White or Navy
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or FlynnO'Hara



9th-12th Grade Boys Shirt & Tie (the tie is not worn daily)

- White Oxford Shirt with Logo - Short or Long Sleeved
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or Flynn O'Hara



6th-12th Grade Boys

- Student ID attached to GHFH provided lanyard
- Khaki Shorts or Pants
Vendor: Any
- Belt -Leather/Vegan Leather with Buckle
Color: Black or Brown
Vendor: Any



Shoes - Approved Options



Solid black or white, non-high-top, athletic shoes. Dark brown or black laced leather or vegan leather dress (Oxfords, Derbys) or loafer dress shoes (slip-on). Students will be required to wear dress shoes for certain school events.(see “Athletic Shoes Continued” section below)

Shoes - Prohibited



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 (including cowboy), two-toned tennis shoes, canvas shoes, etc.

Optional:

- Navy Pullover Sweater or Sweater Vest with Logo
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or Flynn O'Hara
- Navy Quarter-zip Sweatshirt with Logo
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or Flynn O'Hara
- Navy Full Zip Fleece Jacket with Logo
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or Flynn O'Hara



Male Accessories:

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

Jewelry:

- Piercing Jewelry of any kind is not permitted. Holes requiring spacers must be clear and inconspicuous.
- Clip-on/magnetized ear, facial or body studs/rings are also strictly prohibited.
- Chokers, beaded necklaces, leather necklaces, shells, large or elaborate chain-link, large or elaborate pendants are not permitted.
- Approved Jewelry
 - A single chain/necklace-thin, silver or gold chain (16"-20") with or without a small (1") pendant.
 - A simple watch - smart watches are not permitted
 - One simple, tasteful bracelet without logo
 - One simple, tasteful ring per hand

Grooming for Males:

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 bottom of the shirt collar, not touching the shoulders. Hair must be natural looking and conservative in its color and cut. No bleaching or unnatural streaking/highlighting. No artificial unnatural coloring including jet-black, crayon red or premature graying. 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 ponytail on the back of the head. Accommodations for religious reasons are permitted.

Facial hair should be clean shaved daily. Beards, goatees and/or mustaches are prohibited. Noticeable facial hair such as "stubble," "peach fuzz," and "5 o'clock shadows" are not allowed upon arrival. Students will be given one warning, and if he has not shaved before the start of school the next day, he will be required to shave with provided materials before permitted to class.

Make-up/Concealers: males are not allowed to wear make-up of any kind including nail polish. Clear Hydrocolloid Patches sometimes referred to as spot dots or pimple patches are permitted but only if clear or the skin tone of the person wearing them.

Upper School Uniform: Female Specifics

Required:

6th-8th Grade Girls Shirt

- Polo Shirt with Logo - Short or Long Sleeved
Color: White or Navy
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or FlynnO'Hara



9th-12th Grade Girls Shirt/Blouse

- White Short Sleeve Blouse/Long-Sleeve Oxford
Shirt w/ Logo
Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or FlynnO'Hara



6th-12th Grade Girls

Required:

- Student Id attached to GHFH provided lanyard
- Plaid (navy blue and khaki) skirt with modesty short or Khaki Pants
Skirt Vendor: Tommy Hilfiger or FlynnO'Hara
Pant Vendor: Any

Shoes - Approved Options



The shoes may have a simple ornament with the same color of the shoe, silver or gold color; no rhinestones, glitter, or patterned uppers. Solid black or white, non-high-top, athletic shoes. 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 or penny loafers; leather or vegan leather; Saddle shoes that are white and black/blue (see “Athletic Shoes Continued” section below)

Shoes - Prohibited



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 (including cowboy), two-toned tennis shoes, canvas shoes, etc.

Optional:

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



Female Accessories

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.

Approved jewelry:

- One pair of short/stud earrings on the ear lobes only.
- 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.

Unapproved Jewelry:

- Upper ear, lip, nose or any other facial or body piercing jewelry is strictly prohibited. Holes requiring spacers must be clear and inconspicuous.

- Clip-on/magnetized upper ear or facial studs/rings are also strictly prohibited.
- Hoops may not be larger than the size of a nickel and dangling or distracting earrings are not permitted.
- Chokers, beaded necklaces, leather necklaces, shells, large or elaborate chain-link, large or elaborate pendants are not permitted.

Grooming for Girls:

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 crayon red or jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors including premature graying). 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. Unnatural colored lipliner/lipstick, overlining or lip contouring will not be permitted. Clear Hydrocolloid Patches sometimes referred to as spot dots or pimple patches are permitted but only if clear or the skin tone of the person wearing them.

Fingernails: Girls' fake or natural fingernails should not be excessively long or painted garishly. Fingernails' shape may only be round or oval; Stiletto, Coffin, Lipstick or similar variants are prohibited. Fingernails may only be polished in clear, light pink, classic red, GHFH Navy and Gold. Tasteful French manicures are acceptable. No additional shades of blue, green, yellow, purple, orange, red, gray, brown or black are permissible. Glittered, speckled, jeweled or patterned nail polish are prohibited.

Athletic Shoes Appendix

Forest Heights Upper School has received a special allowance from the district for athletic shoes to be permitted during the regular school day but they must be solid black or solid white. For clarity, even black-and-white combinations are prohibited. Be sure to reference the entire shoe section in the GHFH Upper School Uniform Policy above.

Yes



No

