

Dress Code Guidelines

Parents and students carry the primary responsibility to comply with and support the Academy's dress code. We trust that you will support the guidelines as being representative of the witness that children from a Christian home would exhibit. **Modesty, cleanliness, neatness and Christian testimony should guide dress for all occasions.**

WHAT IS THE DRESS CODE?

The dress code has been established in order to contribute to a positive learning environment. Good grooming should be a mark of every FCA student. Students are expected to avoid extremes in clothing, hairstyles and general appearance. Students are expected to wear attire that conforms to the "Non-Uniform" guidelines to school concerts, programs and other specific school activities. FCA students are to arrive at school in uniforms as defined by the following dress code guidelines and are to remain in uniforms until dismissal. Dress code for after school activities is listed under school sponsored events dress guidelines.

Clothing may be purchased from various local vendors as long as it is the approved style of **School Closet and Educational Apparel**. **Girl's plaid jumpers must be purchased through these 2 stores.**

- **All uniforms that you purchase must be standard uniform fabric & style. No cargo pants, denim, skinny pants, etc. are permitted.**
- **No brand name logo is allowed on any shirt or polo. The only exception is the FCA logo.**

APPROVED UNIFORM BRANDS:

FCA's *official* Uniform Stores are:

School Closet - 4507 North High St. Columbus, Ohio 43214, 614-262-6016 &
73 North Stygler Rd. Gahanna, Ohio 43230, 614-476-4104, www.schoolcloset.com
(girl's plaid jumpers & skirts available here)

and

Education Apparel - 3906 Brown Park Dr. Hilliard, OH, 614-876-3030, www.educationalapparel.com
(girl's plaid jumpers & skirts available here)

Please log onto their websites to see the FCA page of approved styles. As you shop from other vendors, please compare your selections to those that have been approved from Education Apparel and School Closet. Although the particular vendor you are purchasing from may be approved, not all of their merchandise has been approved. The particular items you are purchasing must be consistent in fabric, color, style and fit with those that have been approved from Education Apparel and School Closet and they must align with all dress code guidelines listed in the handbook. Do not hesitate to contact the school office, 740-654-2889, ext. 307, if you have questions before making a purchase.

General Guidelines for ALL students are set promoting modesty and simplicity in lifestyle and so as not to draw undue attention to oneself. The Administration reserves the right to make discretionary judgments regarding dress code. If any student or parent has questions about clothing or hairstyles, the administration will be glad to help. (It is always best to check in advance!)

LADIES' DRESS GUIDELINES

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| Belts | A belt is required with uniform pants and shorts. Belts need to be plain and of one solid color. Belts may be tan, navy, brown or black to coordinate with uniform. Belts are intended to keep pants at the waist; therefore pants may not be worn below the waist in a "slouching" or "sagging" position. |
| Gym Wear / Personal Fitness | Grade 6-12: Students are required to change into their gym uniform for all gym classes. Gym t-shirts can be any Spirit wear t-shirt. Gym shorts cannot be higher than 2" above the knee or lower than the bottom of the knee. (No" Soffe" shorts permitted.) |
| Hair | Must be kept clean and well groomed. Hair styles must be neat and styled in a manner that it does not fall into eyes. Hair dying (unnatural colors), bleaching or styles that draw undue attention are not permitted. Any hair coloring should only complement your existing color; thus the "natural" color remains consistent throughout the entire school year. Extreme hairstyles will be addressed individually. |
| Hair Accessories | Must coordinate with the uniform. Hats are not to be worn in the school building during school hours. |
| Jewelry / Scarves | Earrings are the only pierced jewelry permitted and are limited to two earrings per ear lobe (earrings in the rim of the ear are not permitted). The size of the earring may be no bigger than 1 ¼" in length or diameter. Bracelets may be worn if conservative in style and not distracting to the classroom setting (i.e. no clanking bracelet rings.) Chains are to be simple. No choker chains or dog chains permitted. All jewelry must be inoffensive to the Christian faith. Scarves are not permitted. Excessive or inappropriate jewelry will be addressed individually. |
| Knit Polo Shirts | Collared, long or short-sleeved in white, navy, light blue, hunter green, and red. Absolutely NO midriff showing or oversized shirts. Undershirts are not to be visible at the waist. |
| Nails / Body Art | No black, neon, or extreme nail length or polish are to be worn. Moderate make-up is permitted, no extreme dark applications. Tattoos or body piercing are not permitted. Students may not write on their bodies including the writing of notes, drawing tattoos or designs, or any numbers of any kind on arms, hands, etc. |
| Oxford Shirts | Long or short-sleeved in white or light blue. Only the top button may remain unbuttoned. Required on Chapel day and must always be tucked in. |
| Pants | Navy or khaki in uniform style; must be hemmed. No cargo pants, denim, skinny pants, etc. |
| Polar Fleece | Navy, red, black or dark gray with school crest or embroidered Knight Logo worn over a uniform shirt. |
| Shoes | All colors of athletic shoes are within dress code. Lights, holes and wheels are excluded. Athletic shoes must have laces and must cover the entire foot. Sandals are not to be worn. Heels/soles should not exceed two inches in height. Boots of any type are not to be worn in the classroom. |
| Shorts | Navy or khaki in uniform style, hemmed and cannot be higher than 2" above the knee or lower than the bottom of the knee. No cargo, denim or skinny shorts. |
| Skirts | School plaid, khaki, or navy. Skirts must touch the top of the knee. |
| Socks | Solid, white, navy, tan, black, gray, red or hunter green. |

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| Sweaters and Vests | Navy, black, red, gray, white or hunter green; Uniform cardigan, V-neck and crew, or vest worn over uniform shirt. |
| Sweatshirts | Navy with school crest or embroidered Knight logo (not permitted on Chapel Day). |
| Tights / Leggings | White, navy, tan, gray and black. All tights & leggings need to be a solid color; no patterns or designs are permitted. Leggings must come to the ankle. |
| Turtlenecks | White, navy, light blue, hunter green, and red may be worn under appropriate sweaters, vests, or sweatshirts. |
| Undergarments | Proper undergarments must be worn at all times and not visible in any way. All undergarments must be free from visible slogans, pictures, and logos. |

CHAPEL DAY DRESS CODE FOR LADIES

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| GRADES 6-12 | Uniform skirt or uniform pants, tucked in white or light blue oxford shirt (short or long sleeved), hose, knee socks (to the knee), leggings (ankle length) or tights with skirts. Students may wear approved uniform sweater, vest, or fleece on top of their oxford shirts. Dress or athletic shoes permitted. |
| GRADES K-5 | Plaid jumper, white Peter Pan blouse (short or long sleeved), knee socks (to the knee), leggings (to the ankle) or tights and dress shoes or athletic shoes. |

GENTLEMEN'S DRESS GUIDELINES

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| Belts | A belt is required with uniform pants and shorts. Belts need to be plain and of one solid color. Belts may be tan, navy, brown or black to coordinate with uniform. Belts are intended to keep pants at the waist; therefore, pants may not be worn below the waist in a "slouching" or "sagging" position. |
| Body Art | Tattoos or body piercing are not permitted. Students may not write on their bodies including the writing of notes, drawing tattoos or designs, or any numbers of any kind on arms, hands, etc. |
| Gym Wear / Personal Fitness | Grade 6-12: Students are required to change into their gym uniform for all gym classes. Gym t-shirts can be any Spirit wear t-shirt. Gym shorts cannot be higher than 2" above the knee or lower than the bottom of the knee. Students are encouraged to wear compression shorts under gym shorts. |
| Hair | Must be kept clean and well groomed. Hair length must be cut and styled so that the hair does not fall into the eyes. Hair may be no longer than the bottom of the ear on the sides and collar length in the back. No designs should be shaven into the hair, nor are partial or fully shaven heads acceptable. Boy's hair may not be spiked, nor are they permitted to have the bed-head or "messy look." Also, no tails in back. No un-natural coloration of hair. Extreme hairstyles will be addressed individually. |
| Facial Hair | Men must be clean-shaven at all times. Facial hair or shadow look is not allowed. Sideburns may not extend below the middle of the ear. |
| Jewelry | No earrings or other pierced jewelry of any kind. Chokers, ball-and-chain necklaces are not permitted. Regular jeweled-link necklaces are permitted though they must be long |

enough that they hang below the collar of a regular T-shirt. Watches are allowed. All jewelry must be inoffensive to the Christian faith.

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| Knit Polo Shirts | Collared, long or short-sleeved in white, navy, light blue, hunter green, and red. Absolutely NO midriff showing or oversized shirts. Under shirts must not be visible at the waist. |
| Oxford Shirts | Long or short-sleeved in white or light blue. Only the top button may remain unbuttoned. Required on Chapel day and must always be tucked in. |
| Pants skinny pants. | Navy or khaki in uniform style; must be hemmed appropriately. No cargo, denim or |
| Polar Fleece | Navy, red, black or dark gray with school crest or Knight logo embroidered, worn over a uniform shirt. |
| Shoes | All colors of athletic shoes are within dress code. Lights, holes and wheels are excluded. Athletic shoes must have laces and must cover the entire foot. Sandals are not to be worn. Heels/soles should not exceed two inches in height. Boots of any type are not to be worn in the classroom. |
| Shorts | Navy or khaki in uniform style, hemmed and cannot be higher than 2" above the knee or lower than the bottom of the knee. No cargo, denim or skinny shorts. |
| Socks | Solid, white, navy, tan, black, gray, red or hunter green. |
| Sweaters and Vests | Navy, black, red, gray, white or hunter green; Uniform cardigan, ½ zip, V-neck, crew, or vest worn over uniform shirt. |
| Sweatshirts | Navy with school crest or embroidered Knight logo (not permitted on Chapel Day). |
| Turtlenecks | White, navy, light blue, hunter green, or red. |
| Undergarments | Proper undergarments must be worn at all times and visible in no way. All t-shirt undergarments must be white and be free from visible slogans, pictures, and logos. |

CHAPEL DAY DRESS CODE FOR GENTLEMEN

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| GRADES 6-12 | Navy or khaki pants, tucked in white or light blue oxford shirt (short or long sleeved), belt, and a tie that coordinates. The tie must be worn until lunchtime on regular chapel days, or until after the assembly or chapel in the afternoon. Students may wear approved uniform sweater, vest, or fleece on top of their oxford shirts. Dress or athletic shoes permitted. |
| GRADES K-5 | Khaki or Navy pants, white or light blue oxford shirt (short or long sleeved), belt, dress or athletic shoes. |

SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS DRESS GUIDELINES

Fridays or Spirit Wear Days

Uniforms can be modified on Fridays to include approved FCA Spirit Wear. These tops can be purchased through the school or purchased at a store that carries FCA sports or arts insignias. This does not include handmade shirts with handwritten logos. Requirements for uniform pants and footwear remain the same on these days.

Other than on chapel days, *team players* or *group participants* may also wear team/group uniform tops on days when they have games or a performance that evening. Requirements on when and how these must be worn will be explained by the principal, athletic director or coach.

Non-uniform / Dress Down Days

Throughout the school year, there will be designated dress down days as scheduled by the administration. Guidelines include:

1. Clothing must be neat and clean. (No P.J.'s, sweatpants or yoga pants).
2. Jeans may be worn provided they are in good condition, no holes, hemmed and do not extend past the heel, no holes or fraying and no skinny jeans.
3. All shirts must have sleeves. No "short length" tops where midriff would show (even when arms are extended), tank tops, spaghetti straps, or mesh shirts. All writing and placement of writing on shirts must be non-offensive to the Christian faith.
4. All dresses, skirts, and shorts must be the same length as school uniform style.

Athletic Events

The Administration and staff of FCA expects that both FCA students and their guests will observe school standards of modesty and appropriate taste at these events. The school officials in charge of such events reserve the right to exclude any person who does not observe appropriate dress standards.

Athletic Practices

The Administration and coaches expect that the same guidelines of modesty and appropriate dress be carried over to the after school athletic activities. Shirts must be an appropriate length, no midriffs, or "skin tight" outerwear. No spaghetti strap or skinny strap tank tops allowed. Please have sleeveless shirts come to outer shoulder area. All shorts must be mid-thigh or longer. ("Soffe" shorts are too short and are not permitted.) Some sports may have more specific guidelines as determined by the designated coach. Administration reserves the right to make discretionary judgments regarding athletic dress code.

Field Trips

Students should check with their faculty sponsor to determine appropriate dress for the outing. Students who arrive at school dressed inappropriately for the trip will not be allowed to participate.

School Sponsored Social Events

Dress appropriately for the nature of the social event you are attending. The administration will always announce dress guidelines for scheduled social events (usually in writing).

- Formal dress events requiring formal evening attire for both men and women are held from time to time. Women's formal dresses must be approved by the activity's director. Men's dress guidelines will be announced prior to the event.