

## **DRESS CODE GUIDELINES**

Parents and students carry the primary responsibility to comply with and support FCA's dress code. The purpose of wearing uniforms is to promote uniformity so that during school hours distractions will be minimized allowing students to focus on the academic and spiritual matters. Modesty, cleanliness, neatness, professionalism, and Christian testimony should guide dress for all occasions. The administration will address individual student concerns individually.

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. It would be impossible to create dress code guidelines that addressed every possible detail; therefore, it is imperative that it is understood that students are expected to avoid clothing, accessories and hairstyles that are extreme. When in doubt, ask!

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.

### **OFFICIAL UNIFORM SUPPLIERS**

Clothing may be purchased from various local vendors as long as it conforms to the approved style of School Closet and Educational Apparel.

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

*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](http://www.schoolcloset.com)

*Education Apparel* - 3906 Brown Park Dr. Hilliard, OH, 614-876-3030, [www.educationalapparel.com](http://www.educationalapparel.com)

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 below. Do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have questions before making a purchase.

General guidelines for all students are set in order to promote 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!

## **STUDENT DRESS GUIDELINES**

<b>Belts</b>	A belt is not required with uniform pants and shorts; however, pants may not be worn below the waist in a “slouching” or “sagging” position.
<b>Gym Wear/ Personal Fitness</b>	Grade 6-12: Students are allowed to change into a 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.
<b>Knit Polo Shirt</b>	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.
<b>Oxford Shirts</b>	Long or short-sleeved in white or light blue. Only the top button may remain unbuttoned.
<b>Pants</b>	Navy or khaki in uniform style; must be hemmed. No cargo pants, denim, spandex/yoga, skinny pants, etc. Pants must be uniform style and conform to the style of pants that can be purchased from the official uniform suppliers.
<b>Polar/Dri-Fit Fleece</b>	Navy, red, black or dark gray traditional fleece or dri-fit fleece jacket with school crest or embroidered Knight logo <b>worn over a uniform shirt</b> . Jackets may be quarter-zip or full zip.
<b>Shoes</b>	All colors of athletic shoes are within dress code. Shoes with lights, holes and wheels are excluded. Athletic shoes must have laces and must cover the entire foot. Sandals or Crocs 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.
<b>Shorts</b>	Navy or khaki in uniform style, hemmed and must come to the knee. No cargo, denim, spandex or skinny shorts.
<b>Socks</b>	Solid, white, navy, tan, black, gray, red or hunter green.
<b>Sweaters &amp; Vests</b>	Navy, black, red, gray, white or hunter green; Uniform cardigan, V-neck and crew, or vest worn over uniform shirt. Please refer to Educational Apparel for accepted styles.
<b>Sweatshirts</b>	Navy with school crest or embroidered Knight logo (not permitted on Chapel Day).
<b>Undergarments</b>	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.
<b>Varsity Jackets</b>	FCA varsity jackets (owned by the student wearing the jacket) may be worn in the building during the school day.

## ***GIRLS DRESS GUIDELINES***

- 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 1¼” 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. Girls are not permitted to wear ties.
- 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, body/facial piercings, and permanent or semi-permanent eyebrow alterations are not permitted. Students may not write on their bodies including the writing of notes, drawing “tattoos”, designs, or numbers/letters of any kind on arms, hands, etc.
- Skirts** School plaid, khaki, or navy. Skirts must come to the knee.
- 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 (no capri styles).

## **Chapel Day Guidelines**

Chapel Day no longer has a specific dress code. All students can refer to the above guidelines for Chapel Day with the exception of shorts. Shorts are not to be worn on Chapel Day.

## ***BOYS DRESS GUIDELINES***

- Body Art** No nail polish or makeup is to be worn. Tattoos, body/facial piercings, and permanent or semi-permanent eyebrow alterations are not permitted. Students may not write on their bodies including the writing of notes, drawing “tattoos”, designs, or numbers/letters of any kind on arms, hands, etc.
- 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.

<b>Hair</b>	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." No un-natural coloration of hair. Extreme hairstyles will be addressed individually.
<b>Jewelry</b>	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.

## **Chapel Day Guidelines**

Chapel Day no longer has a specific dress code. All students can refer to the above guidelines for Chapel Day with the exception of shorts. Shorts are not to be worn on Chapel Day.

## ***GUIDELINES FOR SCHOOL SPONSORED EVENTS***

### **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. Softe brand 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.

### **Non-uniform (Dress Down) Days**

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

- Clothing must be neat and clean. (No P.J.'s, sweatpants or yoga pants).
- 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.

- All shirts must have sleeves. No “crop 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.
- All dresses, skirts, and shorts must be the same length as school uniform style.
- Only school approved regular uniform footwear is to be worn (e.g. no boots, sandals or Crocs).

## **School Sponsored Social Events**

Students should always dress appropriately for the nature of the social event they 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.

## **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/skirts and footwear remain the same on these days.

## **Athletics**

Other than on chapel days, team players or group participants may occasionally wear specified athletic uniforms. Requirements on when and how these can be worn will be determined by the principal, athletic director or coach.