Dress Code Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this Dress Code Policy is to help create a safe learning environment and promote the crew concept. Voyage Academy believes that a mandatory dress code will promote a sense of school unity and remove distractions created by socioeconomic differences and modern fashion, while instilling personal responsibility and self-respect.

All students are required to wear uniforms. Parents are responsible for ensuring that their children wear the designated school uniform clothing as outlined below.

Tops

- Shirts must be solid white, grey, black, or any shade of blue with or without authorized school logo.
- Shirts must have a collar (polo style or button up shirt).
- Shirts can be long or short sleeved.
- Sleeves must cover the shoulders and under the arm.
- Layering with a shirt underneath is permitted as long as the under layer is solid white, blue, black, or grey.
- Logos and embroidery are permitted as long as they are no larger than the size of a half dollar, or 1.5” square. The school logo, which may be larger, is also accepted.
- Shirts must be long enough to cover midriff when standing, sitting, and bending over.

Outerwear

Sweaters and vests

- Must be solid blue, white, black, or grey with or without authorized school logo
- When wearing sweaters and vests in the classroom, collars must be visible

Jackets (worn inside the building)

- Must have a zipper
- Must be school colors, including the zipper and strings
- Pattern is allowed as long as it is school colors and not distracting
- Hoods are acceptable, but cannot be worn inside the building
- Collars must be visible

Winter attire (coats, jackets, snow pants, gloves and hats) are not subject to the uniform color restrictions, and should be worn outside the building.
Bottoms

- All bottoms must be a solid colored khaki, navy blue, black, or grey.
- Jumpers, skirts, skorts, shorts and capris are allowed but must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.
- Cargo pants/shorts are allowed.
- Solid colored dresses in blue, grey, or khaki may be worn.
- Dresses must have a collar or collared shirt underneath.
- Sweatpants, exercise pants, and overalls are not permitted.
- Tights/leggings (when not worn under a skirt or dress) are not permitted.
- Denim jeans and jeggings are not permitted on uniform dress days.

No low-riding bottoms or visible undergarments will be allowed. Something must be worn under skirts to cover undergarments. For example: tights, leggings, or spandex shorts. Leggings and tights must be a school color and be opaque (not sheer). Fish net and lace tights/leggings are not permitted. When tights and leggings are worn, dresses and skirts still must be no shorter than two inches above the knee.

Field Work Dress

When students are out on field work, uniform dress code will be worn unless otherwise specified by the teacher.

Shoes

Footwear must be appropriate for outdoor activities and P.E.. Footwear may have open toes, but must have a strap or some kind of back on the shoe so that it doesn’t slip off the feet.

Students may not wear:

- Shoes with wheels.
- Flip-flops.
- Slippers of any kind are not permitted.

Accessories

Body piercing will be limited to earrings only (no gauging) that do not draw undue attention or present a danger to the person wearing them. Other jewelry may not be excessive or distract from the learning environment. No chains may be worn other than around the neck or wrist. Ties are permitted, but must be a school color.
Hair

Students may wear their hair in any way that does not distract from the learning environment. Extreme hairstyles and unnatural colors will not be allowed. Fauxhawks over an inch must be combed down during the school day. Examples of hairstyles that are not permitted include: Mohawks in any form, designs shaved into any portion of the head, and any other hair style deemed distracting by Voyage Academy Administration.

Other Attire

Students may choose other attire such as backpacks, purses, etc. that are not offensive and are appropriate to our learning environment. Hats may not be worn inside the building.

General Policy Considerations

- Clothing must be neat and in good condition. Rips, tears and large stains are not permitted.

Dress Down Day

A “Dress Down Day” is a regular school day when various provisions of this Dress Code Policy will not be enforced.

The following are examples of clothing that is inappropiate and will not be permitted:

- Clothing or lack of clothing that is disruptive, provocative, revealing, indecent, vulgar, or obscene;
- Revealing necklines, bare midriffs and excessively tight clothing;
- Clothing which promotes alcoholic beverages, tobacco, or the use of controlled substances by words or symbols;
- Clothing which contains profanity, nudity, depicts violence, or is sexual in nature by words or symbols;
- Tank tops, spaghetti strap tops, and sleeveless shirts;
- Undergarments worn as an outer garment or any see-through clothing that reveals an undergarment;
- Hats, visors, sunglasses, sweatbands, and bandannas (may be worn outside but must be removed when inside the school);
- Short shorts and short skirts. Skirt and short length should be no shorter than 2 inches above the knee;
- Pajamas (may only be worn on designated days approved by the Director);
- Tights, leggings, and jeggings (when not worn under a skirt or dress); and
- Any item of clothing or jewelry that creates a disruption of the school environment/learning activities, or that poses a threat to the safety and well-being of students or staff.

This Policy is intended to create a framework to meet the purpose described above. As styles change, or if questions arise, the school administration, as the Board of Directors’ designee, has the authority to determine if a student’s attire or appearance conforms to the provisions contained in this Policy.

Enforcement

When necessary, teachers will implement the following discipline policy:

If a student is violating the Dress Code Policy, the student will be sent to the office.

- Parents will be called to bring proper clothing and the student will remain in the office until clothing arrives.
- If parents are unable to do so in a timely manner, and it is a minor breach of the policy, the office may provide some interim clothing so that the student may return to class.
- For subsequent violations, students will be subject to the progressive discipline policy, including the provisions regarding persistent violation of school rules and persistent disobedience, which may result in suspension and eventual expulsion.