

MIDDLE AND UPPER SCHOOL DRESS CODE

Parents' cooperation is essential in helping the school enforce a dress code that reflects our community values and minimizes distractions. With a wide range of acceptable dress in the greater community, the school chooses to adhere to a dress code that favors more modest attire. Fashion is unpredictable and constantly changing; therefore, this dress code may not fully address every new trend. In areas where the dress code is silent or unclear, faculty and staff will interpret and enforce the intended "spirit" of the dress code with administrators' oversight. The school reserves the right to clarify or to modify this dress code throughout the school year. Any changes will be shared promptly, and in writing, with the Gaston Day community through email or direct mail.

General Dress and Appearance Guidelines

Students are required to be neatly and properly dressed at all times during the school day.

1. Clothing must be size-appropriate and may not be oversized or undersized in part or whole.
2. No hats or caps are to be worn inside any building on campus.
3. Athletic wear and warm-up suits are unacceptable.
4. Clothing that is frayed, torn, or slit is unacceptable.
5. This dress code applies to all students on campus at any time during any school day (including students on campus but not attending a class, temporarily on campus running errands, departing for a trip, etc.)

Acceptable Daily Wear - Females

Female students must wear size-appropriate shirts/blouses with necklines exposing no cleavage. This includes shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, and t-shirts. Students may wear Gaston Day School and college apparel (shirts and sweatshirts) with appropriate language/images.

For all non-GDS and non-college apparel, only one small designer's logo no larger than 3 inches in size is allowed. No large (larger than 3 inches in size) logo, patterned-logo or screen-print designed t-shirts or sweatshirts will be allowed.

Female shirts must completely cover torso during normal daily activity. No undergarments may be visible at any time. Midriff tops, tank tops, and spaghetti straps are unacceptable. Sleeveless tops should have at least three finger-width straps.

Pants/jeans must be size-appropriate, neat and presentable.

Leggings are acceptable if worn underneath size-appropriate skirts or shorts.

Shorts, skirts, and dresses must be size appropriate and measure longer than fingertip length of arm fully extended at side.

Tennis shoes, casual shoes, and athletic sandals are acceptable.

Jewelry and accessories are acceptable as long as they are conservative and in keeping with the spirit of the dress code. Piercings (other than ear) and visible tattoos are unacceptable.

Acceptable Daily Wear - Males

Male students must wear size-appropriate shirts, sweatshirts, sweaters, and t-shirts. Students may wear Gaston Day School and college apparel (shirts and sweatshirts) with appropriate language/images.

For all non-GDS and non-college apparel, only one small designer's logo no larger than 3 inches in size is allowed. No large (larger than 3 inches in size) logo, patterned-logo or screen-print designed t-shirts or sweatshirts will be allowed.

Male shirts must have sleeves and completely cover torso during normal daily activity. No undergarments may be visible at any time. An undershirt may not be worn as a substitute for a shirt.

Pants/jeans must be size-appropriate, neat and presentable.

Shorts must measure longer than fingertip length of arm fully extended at side but no longer than the bottom of the kneecap.

Tennis shoes, casual shoes, and athletic sandals are acceptable.

Jewelry and accessories are acceptable as long as they are conservative and in keeping with the spirit of the dress code. Piercings and visible tattoos are unacceptable.

“Dress-Down” Attire (for Dances, Exam Days, Spirit Week and Special Occasions)

On certain designated occasions, students have an option for a relaxed dress code. On any of these occasions, the “spirit” of the daily dress code applies. The faculty/administrator organizing an event will provide specific guidelines for relaxed attire; students should ask questions and seek any clarification for special dress guidelines in advance of the event. If a student is uncertain or confused about relaxed attire guidelines for a special occasion, he/she is expected to follow the standard daily dress code.

Dress Code Violations

Students found in violation of the dress code at any point during the school day will be assigned a school detention. Repeated dress code infractions may lead to a loss of school privileges.

High Dress Uniform

On special designated days of community celebration, all students must wear the official Gaston Day School High Dress Uniform. Students will be issued a school crest to be worn on the blazer pocket; additionally, male students must wear the school tie (bow or traditional). With the exception of the school tie and crest, all high dress items may be purchased from the Lands' End School Uniform store (or purchased from a local department store). See published materials or the school website for more details.

All portions of the high dress uniform are to be worn throughout the school day, including during breaks, lunch, free periods and assemblies. A student may remove his/her blazer during class.

Acceptable High Dress for Females

Navy long sleeve two-button blazer (gold buttons)

White blouse with pointed collar or button-down collar (short or long sleeve)

Non-accordion khaki skirt (plain or with limited pleats/gores) that measures longer than fingertip length of arm fully extended at side, or khaki slacks (no shorts or corduroy material).

Dress shoes (black, brown or navy)

Dress shoes are defined as closed-toe shoes with a back and in good condition. Sandals (including Crocs and Birkenstocks) and boots and canvas shoes are not acceptable. Sperrys are acceptable if they are brown, black or navy. Heels may be no higher than two inches.

School crest on blazer left chest (to be purchased through the school)

Tights (navy or black only), skin-tone pantyhose, navy or black ankle or knee socks or bare legs (no leggings or leg warmers).

Accessories must be conservative (no colorful belts, no scarves, and no chunky necklaces).

Acceptable High Dress for Males

Navy long sleeve two-button blazer (gold buttons)

White button-down dress shirt (short or long sleeve)

School tie (traditional or bow tie – to be purchased through the school)

Khaki pants (no shorts or corduroy material)

Solid (no pattern) brown or blue belt

Dress shoes (black, brown or navy) - Dress shoes are defined as closed toe shoes with a back and in good condition. Sandals (including Crocs and Birkenstocks), boots, and canvas shoes are unacceptable.

Sperrys are acceptable if they are solid brown, black or navy.

School crest on blazer left chest (to be purchased through the school)

Solid (no pattern) brown or blue dress socks

Accessories must be conservative (no colorful belts and no scarves).

High Dress Uniform Violations

Students who are not in high dress on designated days will be assigned a school detention. In some cases, at the discretion of an administrator or teacher, a student who meets *most but not all* high dress requirements may be allowed to **correct a violation prior to the start of the school day without penalty.**

Physical Education Dress Code and Uniforms

Students enrolled in physical education in grades 5-9 are required to comply with the following PE Uniform expectations:

Students must wear any Gaston Day School t-shirt, any college t-shirt, or any plain white t-shirt.

Students must wear solid-colored gym shorts/sweatpants of appropriate size/length with no logo or writing.

Students must wear socks.

Students must wear appropriate athletic shoes.

Game Day Dress

As a matter of team and school pride and morale, athletic teams may choose to wear team uniforms to team t-shirts; however, the acceptable daily wear requirements still apply. **Students may not wear team warm-up suits during the school day.**