



Uniform Policy

Sherwood Charter School established the uniform policy to present and maintain an educational environment conducive to learning. A uniform wardrobe helps students develop a healthy pride in their school, a sense of belonging and builds community. Just as athletic team uniforms promote unity and spirit, so does a school wardrobe.

Our Uniform Policy also promotes a productive instructional environment as appropriate clothing minimizes classroom distractions, sets the tone for a proper work attitude, and helps students direct their attention to learning. A prescribed student wardrobe also helps eliminate “label competition” among students, externally equalizing all students and improving self-image for some.

Student safety is also improved when clothing is uniform as it distinguishes visitors to the campus.

While it is the responsibility of the Sherwood Charter School to determine the uniform code; parents and students share the responsibility for proper dress and grooming. You may purchase your uniforms at Lands’ End, Target, Sears, Old Navy or other stores where styles and colors fit within the uniform code guidelines. Goodwill and other used outlets often have uniform pieces. If you are in doubt as to whether or not your purchase meets the uniform description code, please bring it to the office before removing the price tags, so we may confirm your choice. The following guidelines apply while students are at school and at school functions.

1. General Uniform Guidelines

- a. All clothing must be clean and in good condition.
- b. No clothing, hats or accessories may be imprinted with any foul or obscene language or anything that promotes violence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, or gang affiliation, etc
- c. All clothing must be free of logos or embellishments of any kind (such as glitter, sequins, sparkles, etc.) except authorized school logo or unless noted otherwise below.
- d. Clothing that sags, bags, drags, or allows skin to be exposed above or below the intended waistline/belt line **is not** acceptable. The mid-section of the body should not be exposed.
- e. No hoods, hat, bandanas are to be worn over the head in the building or during PE at any time.
- f. **Grooming:** Students are expected to present a neat, clean, and well-groomed appearance.
- g. **Hair:** Hair must be clean, neatly combed, and must not interfere with eyesight. Unnatural (dyed) colored hair is not allowed - e.g. blue, pink, green, purple, etc. (exceptions may be made to specific spirit days when school notice is given.)

- h. **Accessories:** Small jewelry accents are acceptable. One set of earrings in ears is acceptable; other visible piercings need to be removed, including tongue, nose, and eyebrows. Necklaces are to be small without loud colors. The administrator or staff member (e.g. PE teacher) may request removal of jewelry considered to be unsafe or inappropriate for school. Sunglasses and bandanas **may not** be worn in the building at any time. Girls may wear headbands in any of the approved colors, combination of approved colors, or hair-colored headbands and can include glitter, sequins or sparkles.
- i. **Make-up and Nails:** No make-up is allowed for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. Girls in grades six, seven and eight may wear light, natural-looking shades of make-up. If the make-up is excessive, the student will be asked to remove it, or a request for discontinued use will be sent home. Nail polish in pale, neutral/natural shades are permitted for girls in grades Kindergarten through 8th.
- j. Please write your child's name on inside labels so that lost articles may be returned to their owners. Lost-and-found items will be available in the lost and found cabinet located in the downstairs of the main building; lost-and-found items will be "cleared" periodically and donated to a charity organization.

2. **Specific Uniform Guidelines**

a. **Color**

- i. All clothing must be a solid color.
- ii. Pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers and capris must be navy blue, tan cotton twill or thin wale corduroy.
- iii. Polos, sweatshirts, sweaters, vests, dresses (as well as shirts worn beneath them), leggings and socks must be worn in the approved color, length and style for the students grade level as outlined below:
 - 1. **ELEMENTARY GRADES (K – 5th)** - Approved colors are: white, pale pink, navy blue, hunter green and light blue.
 - 2. **MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS ONLY (6th, 7th & 8th)** – May wear any solid color.

b. **Length**

- i. Shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers and capris meet code if their length is between mid-calf and 2 inches above the knees.

c. **Style**

- i. Polo shirts can have long or short sleeves, but they must be absent of **any** pockets and must meet the above general uniform guidelines.
- ii. The bottom of the shirt must be below pant line when arms are fully extended over the head and long enough to be tucked in. No torso or cleavage is to show even when arms are lifted or student is bent over. Underwear should not be seen

at any time; for girls, this includes jogging bras and camisoles with and without lace.

- iii. Spaghetti and thin strap shirts are prohibited.
 - iv. Only long-style walking shorts are allowed.
 - v. Cargo and carpenter-style clothing is prohibited (inclusive of cargo and carpenter-style pants, shorts, capris, jumpers, skirts and skorts).
 - vi. Side stripes and piping are also prohibited.
 - vii. Dresses may be short or long-sleeve polo dresses following the above color and length guidelines.
 - viii. **Sweaters and Sweatshirts:** Sweaters with either a zipper or buttons down the front, sweater vests, sweater pullovers and sweatshirts are permitted in the classroom if a polo shirt is worn under them. They must meet the above general uniform guidelines.
 - ix. **Shoes:**
 - 1. Shoes must be worn with socks; open-toed shoes of any kind are not allowed.
 - 2. Students may wear any kind of sock (knee high, anklets, dressy, or athletic) following the color guidelines as well as the general guidelines stated above.
 - 3. Girls may wear tights in lieu of socks in one of the approved colors outlines in the specific uniform guidelines.
 - 4. Logos or embellishments such as glitter, sequins, and sparkles may be worn on shoes.
 - x. **Coats/Jackets:** Any coat, fleece, jacket or other outerwear may be worn outside of the classroom, but only outerwear that meets the above general uniform guidelines may be worn inside the classroom. If outerwear doesn't meet the above general uniform guidelines, students must remove the outerwear prior to entering classrooms.
 - xi. **Leggings:** Leggings may only be worn under skirts, jumpers, sweaters or tunics that follow the above length and color guidelines; they are not to be worn alone. Leggings are form-fitting, knit stretch pants; they are not athletic or Yoga pants.
- d. **PE (Physical Education) Days:**
- i. Regular school uniform code applies for PE days. Please have your child bring extra uniform clothes that they can change into if they tend to get very dirty during recess or PE. **Middle school** students may change into PE clothes for PE class, however, they must change out of PE clothes after PE class unless that is the last class of the day. Please refer to the PE teacher's policy for dressing down.
 - ii. Tennis shoes **must** be worn for PE.
 - iii. Shorts or leggings must be worn under skirts, jumpers, or dresses on PE days.
 - iv. Students will not be allowed to participate in PE if they are not dressed properly. Failure to comply will affect PE grade.

e. **Field Trip Days:**

- i. Unless otherwise stated on the field trip form, polos are to be worn on every field trip and must follow the general uniform guidelines above. Sometimes students will be asked to wear other appropriate clothing. For example, students may be asked to wear jeans, jacket, rain gear and boots for a day at the farm or to wear a school uniform or nicer for a day at the symphony.

3. **General Non-Uniform/Free Dress Days Guidelines**

- a. Common-sense guidelines apply on “Free Dress” and “Denim Thursday” days, such as no torn-out jeans, no shirts with alcohol or inappropriate graphic or logos, etc. Prohibited articles of clothing include but are not limited to:
 - i. Pajamas (except on “Pajama Day”)
 - ii. Trench coats
 - iii. Tank tops and spaghetti or thin strap tops
 - iv. Bare midriff, or see-through clothing
 - v. Form-fitting pants cannot be worn alone and must follow uniform guidelines as described in section 2(c)(xi) of the uniform policy at all times.
- b. If in doubt as to whether an item is appropriate, send back-up clothing in the event your child is asked to change.
- c. **FREE Dress Days:** Free dress days are the last Thursday of each month for all students.
- d. **Non-Uniform Days:** Class parties or school spirit days may be non-uniform days at the discretion of the administrator. Students still must comply with other general guidelines.
- e. **MIDDLE SCHOOL ONLY - Denim Thursdays:** Every Thursday is “Denim Thursday” **for students in 6th, 7th, and 8th grades**. They may wear denim (bottoms) on Thursdays with their polo shirt on top. The denim must not have holes. Middle school students who do not follow dress code will not be allowed to participate in free dress days or “Denim Thursdays.”

4. **Consequences for Dress Code Infractions**

- a. The uniform code is upheld because of the cooperation of students, parents, and staff. When a student is out of uniform, the parent will be notified and given the opportunity to return to the school with uniform clothing. Meanwhile the student will wear whatever the office has on hand or wait in the office until their parent arrives.
- b. **Elementary students:** for the first three infractions, students will receive a Uniform Policy Reminder. Following the third infraction, the student will be issued a FYI. All infractions thereafter will result in a FYI.
Middle school students: for the first infraction, students will receive a Uniform Policy Reminder. Following the first infraction, the student will be issued a FYI with a consequence determined. All infractions thereafter will result in a FYI.