

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 any stores where styles and colors fit within the uniform code guidelines. 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.

Uniform Guidelines

All clothing must be clean and in good condition and be free of logos or embellishments of any kind (except authorized school logo). Please write your child's name on inside clothing labels so that lost articles may be returned to their owners. Please check lost-and-found regularly as lost items will be periodically donated.

1. Tops and Dresses:

- a. Polos, sweatshirts, sweaters, vests, and polo style dresses must be worn in the approved color, length and style for the students grade level as outlined below:

i. ELEMENTARY GRADES (K – 5th) - Approved colors are: light blue, navy blue, hunter green, pale pink, and white.



ii. MIDDLE SCHOOL STUDENTS (6th, 7th & 8th) – May wear any solid color.

- b. Polo shirts and dresses can have long or short sleeves free of sleeve embellishments, and polos must be absent of any pockets.
- c. 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, chest, or cleavage is to show even when arms are lifted or student is bent over. Underwear should not be seen at any time; this includes jogging bras and camisoles with and without lace.
- d. **Sweaters and Sweatshirts:** Sweaters, sweater vests, sweater pullovers and sweatshirts with a polo worn under them are permitted in the classroom in the approved colors.

2. Bottoms:

- a. Pants, shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers and capris must be solid color navy blue or tan and be cotton twill or thin wale corduroy style.
- b. Shorts, skirts, skorts, jumpers and capris meet code if their length is between mid-calf and no shorter than 3 inches above the knees.
- c. **Leggings:** Leggings may only be worn under skirts, dresses, or jumpers that follow the above length and color guidelines; they are not to be worn alone. Leggings are form-fitting, knit stretch pants.
- d. Bottoms should not be cargo or carpenter-style, athletic or yoga pants, and should not have side stripes and piping.

3. Footwear, Outerwear and Accessories:

a. **Footwear:**

- i. Shoes should be closed toed and must be worn with socks or tights in one of the approved colors. Students should only wear shoes that can be tied or fastened independently.
- ii. Socks may be any style (knee high, anklets, dressy, or athletic).
- iii. Logos or embellishments such as glitter, sequins, and sparkles may be worn on shoes. Heels should be 1 1/2 inch or less in height.

b. **Outerwear:**

- i. Any outerwear, such as coat, fleece, or jacket, may be worn outside of the classroom, but only outerwear that meets the uniform guidelines may be worn inside the classroom. If outerwear doesn't meet the uniform guidelines, students must remove the outerwear prior to entering classrooms.

c. **Accessories:**

- i. Jewelry: Small jewelry accents such as necklaces and earrings are allowed, so long as there are no unsafe edges. One set of earrings in ears is acceptable; other visible piercings need to be removed, including tongue, nose, and eyebrows. The administrator or staff member (e.g. PE teacher) may request removal of any jewelry considered to be unsafe or inappropriate for school.
- ii. Students may wear classic style (horseshoe shaped) headbands in any of the approved colors, combination of approved colors, or hair-colored headbands and can include glitter, sequins, bows or sparkles.
- iii. Sunglasses, bandanas, hoods, or hats may not be worn in the building or during PE.

4. **Grooming:**

- a. Students are expected to present a neat, clean, and well-groomed appearance.
- b. **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 for unnatural temporary hair color may be made to specific spirit days when notice is given.
- c. **Make-up and Nails:** Make-up is not allowed for students in kindergarten through 5th grade. Students in grades six, seven and eight may wear light, natural-looking shades of make-up. If the make-up is determined to be excessive by administration, the student will be asked to remove it. Nail polish in pale, neutral/natural shades is permitted in grades Kindergarten through 8th.

5. **PE (Physical Education) Days:**

- a. 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.
- b. Tennis shoes **must** be worn for PE.
- c. Shorts or leggings must be worn under skirts, jumpers, or dresses on PE days.
- d. Students will not be allowed to participate in PE if they are not dressed properly. Failure to comply will affect PE grade.

6. **Field Trip Days:**

- a. Unless otherwise notified, uniform attire is to be worn on every field trip. Some field trips may require alternative attire to align with the field trip activity and will be communicated in advance.

General Non-Uniform/Free Dress Day Guidelines

1. **Free Dress Days:** Free dress days are the last Thursday of each month for all students. Additionally, 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.
2. **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.
3. Common-sense guidelines apply on "Free Dress" and "Denim Thursday," such as no torn-out jeans, no clothes with inappropriate graphic or logos, or anything that promotes violence, drugs, alcohol, tobacco, sex, racism or gang affiliation, no costume items, etc. Prohibited articles of clothing include but are not limited to:
 - a. Pajamas, yoga pants, sweatpants, and joggers (except on "Pajama Day")
 - b. Trench coats or capes
 - c. Tank tops and spaghetti or thin strap tops
 - d. Bare midriff, or see-through clothing
 - e. Form-fitting pants cannot be worn alone and must follow uniform guidelines as described in section 1(b)(iii) of the uniform policy at all times.
4. It is imperative that student attire does not contribute to a hostile or intimidating atmosphere for any student, and that dress code enforcement does not reinforce or increase marginalization or oppression of any group based on race, sex, gender, identity, religion, ethnicity, or cultural observance. Any such clothing items are not allowed, and students inappropriately dressed on free dress day will be asked to change. Parents will be contacted and asked to bring a change of clothes.
5. If in doubt as to whether an item is appropriate, send back-up clothing in the event your child is asked to change. Younger students are also encouraged to bring a change of clothes in their backpacks in case of accidents.

Consequences for Dress Code Infractions

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. Students will also be given a uniform reminder which specifies consequences for any additional uniform infractions.