

Dress Code Policy

Purpose: The goal of the Uniform Dress Code is to achieve an environment conducive to learning, support an effective and safe school environment, promote respect for both the student and other student's modesty, and initiate a discipline that will be required for future college and work place environments.

Enforcement: The dress code will be enforced in a uniform and consistent manner for all of our student scholars. There will be a progressive approach to enforcement which will include the following steps. Please be reminded that for some offenses parents will be called immediately and asked to bring a change of clothing to correct the infraction.

- **First Offense** - the scholar will be told that they are not in compliance and will receive a verbal warning and written referral in the scholar tracking system maintained by the School Culture Coordinator, Assistant Principal or designee, and an email will be sent to parents.
- **Second Offense** – the scholar will be told they are not in compliance and an email will be sent to parents. One lunch detention will be assigned.
- **Third Offense** – the scholar will be told they are not in compliance and an email will be sent to parents. A before school or after school detention will be assigned. The School Culture Coordinator, Assistant Principal or designee will meet with parents and share a copy of the Dress Code.
- **Fourth Offense** – the scholar will be told they are not in compliance, and a family conference will be scheduled. Three days of lunch, before, or after school detention will be scheduled. At this point the scholar will not be able to participate in any sport or extracurricular activity for a week from the date of infraction.
- **Fifth Offense** – the scholar will serve a one day in-school suspension.

Note to Parents and Scholars: Uniforms with torn pants or shirts with holes are not allowed. All damaged uniform items should be replaced.

Additional Uniform Policy and Grooming Requirements and Limitations: In addition to wearing proper school uniforms, UME Preparatory Academy requires that scholars follow dress code guidelines. UME Prep prohibits any clothing or grooming that, in the administration/staff/teacher judgement, may reasonably be expected to cause disruption of, or interference with, normal school operations.

Student Dress Code

Girls/Young Ladies:

Skirts, shorts, jumpers, or skorts

- Properly fitting khaki, navy or black (For all grade levels)
- Bottom hem may not be worn more than **2 inches above the knees**
- No denim, cargo or stretch material (Spandex, Lycra, etc.) of any kind
- Tights and leggings must be school colors and must be worn under a skirt (Leggings are NOT pants!)
- No cargo pockets

Pants (with belt if appropriate)

- Properly fitting khaki, navy or black
- No knits, spandex, jeans, oversized pants, sleep/lounge pants
- No denim, cargo or stretch material (Spandex, Lycra, etc.)
- Belts can be any solid color, and should be worn if belt loops present (K-4th belts optional)
- Pant legs may not be rolled up

Shirts

- Navy, red, white, gray, or black collared polo, oxford or button down
- Must be tucked in
- Short or long sleeve
- Plain or school logo only (designer emblems must be less than 2 square inches in size)

Boys/Young Men:

Pants with belt

- Properly fitting khaki, navy, or black (For all grade levels)
- Belts should be black, navy, brown, or white (K-4th belts optional)
- Pants legs may not be rolled up
- No denim, cargo or oversized pants

Shorts with belt

- Khaki, navy or black
- May not be more than **2 inches above the knees**
- No cargo pockets

Shirts

- Navy, red, white, gray, or black collard polo, oxford or button down
- Must be tucked in
- Short or long sleeve
- Plain or school logo only (designer emblems must be less than 2 square inches in size)

All Students:

Sweaters/Sweatshirts/Cardigans, Pullover, or Vest

- Solid navy, red, white, gray, or black
- May be worn over the approved shirt
- No denim, t-shirt material, spandex or lycra

Footwear

- Shoes, boots (cowboy boots) and tennis shoes may be worn
- No heels on shoes can exceed 2 inches
- Socks may be of any color, but they must be a solid color (simple logo/stripe are permissible)
- No open-toe shoes, sandals, mules, militaristic style boots or Crocs
- No Heelies (shoes with wheels)
- All shoes must have backs or secure straps on the heel
- Keep shoelaces tied at all times
- Shoes must be kept clean

Personal Appearance - Must not distract from the learning process

- No facial or body piercings are allowed
- Girls may wear up to 2 earrings per ear; no other pierced jewelry is allowed and boys may not wear earrings or pierced jewelry
- No spike/gaged earrings. No spike belts, necklaces or bracelets.
- Bracelets and necklaces are limited to 1 or 2
- No tattoos (permanent or temporary) may be showing
- No extreme hairstyles (Large Afros/Mohawk/Fohawk/Designs Cut and Spiked-Up) or extreme colored hair are allowed. Hair color should be natural in appearance, clean, and well-groomed. Boys' hair may not pass the neck. Sideburns may be to the tip of the ear lobe
- Boys are not allowed to wear nail polish.
- Sunglasses are not permitted inside the building
- Facial hair is not permitted (Moustache, beard, etc.) Sideburns may be to the tip of the ear lobe
- Large or sharp hairpins/hair accessories are not permitted
- Girls may wear tasteful make-up and nail polish that does not call undue attention to the scholar.
- Items which have a belt loop should be worn with a belt

Outerwear

- No hats or other head covering, (including scarves, and bandanas) are to be worn in the building; any head coverings must be removed once the scholar enters the building. Those who need religious exceptions should confer with the Principal
- Cold weather coats can be any color/style/pattern, but **must be removed while inside the building** and stowed in the backpack or locker
- Jackets/Sweaters (including hoodies) may be worn inside the building, but must be solid navy, red, white, gray, or black. (Same colors as allowable polo shirts)
- No trench coats are allowed

PE Standard Dress Code

PE class dress out for scholars will begin in 5th grade (on Dallas campus)

- Required PE shirts are available for your purchase through the school. (navy or gray option) The purchase of a PE shirt acts as the PE class activity fee.
- Solid navy athletic shorts are required. PE shorts may be purchased at a retail store of your choice. Small logos will be ok, but absolutely no stripes or other designs.
- Solid navy or gray sweatpants and sweatshirts will be acceptable as well as any purchased through the school with "UME Prep" on them.
- Cold weather head gear such as stocking hats or ear muffs will be acceptable. Refer to the Outerwear section of the dress code for acceptable options of jackets/coats.

Spirit Wear Days:

Every Friday is Spirit Day! Other Spirit Wear Days may be scheduled for school spirit purposes as deemed appropriate by the Principal. **Spirit Wear days are a privilege** granted as a means of promoting school spirit, but a scholar should not abuse the Spirit Wear Day or the privilege will be withdrawn.

- Scholars may wear UME approved Spirit t-shirts/team shirts/club shirts or regular uniform tops
- Scholars may wear jeans or regular uniform bottoms
- Shirts may be worn un-tucked on Spirit Wear days

Dress Code on Free Dress Days (Jean Days)

- All clothing should meet the spirit and intent of the Uniform Dress Code, including modesty of dress
- UME reserves the right to determine the appropriateness of all clothing worn. Final decisions rest exclusively with the administration.
- All jeans, pants, and shorts must be hemmed and not tattered or frayed.
- No clothing may be worn with tears or holes.
- All shorts, skorts, skirts, and dresses must reach within two inches above the knee.
- Shirts and blouses must be modest and long enough that when hands are above the head, no midriff skin shows
- No halter or spaghetti strap blouses may be worn
- No tank top shirts may be worn
- No vulgar, violent, or offensive pictures or language on clothing may be worn at school or at school activities
- Makeup, jewelry, and shoe requirements are consistent with those listed earlier.

Theme Day Dress

- The Superintendent or Principal may permit dress to coordinate a theme day related to academic instruction
- A scholar's modesty and security should always be maintained;
- Theme days will be communicated to families in advance

Other Miscellaneous

- The administration of the school reserves the right to change or modify this policy as needed. All exceptions to this policy must be approved in advance by the Superintendent.
- Parents will be called to bring a change of clothes or pick up a scholar if he or she violates the Uniform Dress Code.