



# DRESS CODE

## 2023-2024

Revised 08/10/2023

### Philosophy

Our desire at GHCA is to be distinctively Christian in attitude, action, and appearance (I Cor. 10:31; Rom. 15:5-6). Our dress code is based on the principles of modesty, neatness, affordability, safety, and appropriateness. It seeks to provide students with several dress options that meet these standards. Our dress code has not been designed to measure spirituality in any way but to help ensure a school environment in which learning can take place without distraction. We fully understand no set of rules, especially a dress code, can in and of itself produce spiritual maturity. However, a reasonable standard enforced respectfully and consistently can provide opportunities for personal growth and the development of Christian character when applied in an atmosphere that seeks to integrate all aspects of life from a biblical perspective.

### General

1. All clothing must be neat, clean, in good repair, not have holes, and the appropriate size for the student: not oversized, sloppy, or tight-fitting. All clothing must be modest—not revealing or see-through. Students are expected to be clean, well-groomed and to practice good physical hygiene.
2. Dress and grooming must never contradict GHCA's biblical values. Logos, styles, etc., that violate biblical principles of wholesomeness and modesty are never appropriate at school functions of any kind.
3. Any clothing, jewelry, or grooming style that calls attention to itself and/or is disruptive in any way at school or school functions is unacceptable. Clothing styles and colors should be conservative and modest.
4. Students are to remain in appropriate dress code attire while on school grounds from the time they arrive until they depart. This would include students who come to school and leave for an appointment or a practicum during the school day.

### Special Occasions

1. School Events: these include school spirit days, festive days, casual days, and retreats and are defined below unless announced otherwise.

Boys & Girls: GHCA clothing, solid-colored blue jeans with no fades/design/pattern/holes or frays, shirts with hoodies/graphics, and sweatshirts with hoodies/graphics.

2. Game Days: (grades 7-12 only) These include MPA (Maine Principals Association) and non-MPA regulated sports and GHCA school extra-curricular and are defined below.

Boys & Girls: Travel uniforms, team t-shirts, hoodies or track-wear, no jerseys/game shorts, formal dress if required.

3. Chapel Days: (grades 2-12 only).

Boys: formal or casual dress shirts tucked & ties, dress shoes or sneakers; no shorts; no GHCA sweatshirts during chapel.

Girls: blouse or button down dress shirt, jumper, skirt, dress, pants, dress shoes or sneakers; no shorts; no GHCA sweatshirts during chapel.

All School Chapels: (Thanksgiving, Christmas, Easter) Boys wear ties, and girls wear dresses.

4. Special Functions: dress code for special functions and occasions such as field trips, banquets, and graduation-related activities will be announced as necessary.

### Enforcement

1. Parents or guardians are primarily responsible for ensuring their children are dressed appropriately for school and conform to the dress and grooming code. Most dress/grooming issues can be avoided by parents ensuring that their students comply with the standard. ***Parents are expected to support the school's position when questions arise.***
2. The school administration and staff will seek to enforce the dress code with consistency, fairness, respect, and with concern for not only an individual student but also for the larger school family. Students will be spoken to privately away from others if there is a dress code violation or a student's grooming practice needs to be addressed.
3. Students in violation of the dress code may be asked to remain in the office until suitable clothing can be brought in and may be subject to disciplinary action. Students wearing acceptable clothing in an unacceptable manner may also be subject to disciplinary action.
4. The school reserves the right to evaluate and place restrictions as needed as new fashions and fads emerge. ***The final interpretation of the dress code rests solely with the administration.***

## SPECIFIC GUIDELINES

*It is impossible and undesirable to provide an exhaustive list of acceptable and/or unacceptable items or practices. These guidelines are designed to provide a clear sense of the overall goal. Parents or students are encouraged to bring in questionable items for approval before wearing them to school to prevent the possibility of disciplinary action.*

**THE SCHOOL RESERVES THE RIGHT TO ADD TO OR CHANGE PARTS OF THE DRESS CODE AS A RESULT OF A PROBLEM OR OVERSIGHT ON THE SCHOOL'S PART. PARENTS AND STUDENTS WILL BE INFORMED OF ADDITIONS OR CHANGES TO THE DRESS CODE IN ADVANCE OF IT BEING ENFORCED.**

## DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS IN KINDERGARTEN THROUGH SIXTH GRADE

(UPDATED ON 6/30/23)

	BOYS	GIRLS
<b>PANTS &amp; SHORTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dress chinos/khakis twill, corduroy, cargo, dress slacks and non-blue, non-faded, no design/pattern, no holes/frays, solid-color denim pants</li> <li>• Pants must be hemmed or cuffed; not to be touching the floor or higher than the ankle</li> <li>• No boxers/briefs are to be visible</li> <li>• Modest-length walking shorts, colored denim, or cargo shorts; shorts must be hemmed or cuffed (<i>Sep, Oct, Apr, May, Jun</i>)</li> <li>• Unacceptable: stretch, camouflage, sweatpants, leather pants, etc.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dress chinos/khakis twill, corduroy, cargo, dress slacks and non-blue, non-faded, no design/pattern, no holes/frays, solid-color denim pants</li> <li>• Pants must be hemmed or cuffed; not to be touching the floor or higher than the ankle</li> <li>• Mid-thigh length walking shorts, denim, cargo shorts, cropped pants, or capris; shorts must be hemmed or cuffed (<i>Sep, Oct, Apr, May, Jun</i>)</li> <li>• Unacceptable: stretch, camouflage, sweatpants, zip-off, leather pant</li> </ul>
<b>SKIRTS &amp; DRESSES</b>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skirts, jumpers, or dresses may be worn, but must not be tight-fitting or of clingy fabrics;</li> <li>• Modest knee-length culottes, split skirts, skorts, gauchos</li> <li>• Length must fall to the top of the knee while standing, including slits, even when wearing leggings</li> <li>• Denim skirts &amp; jumpers must not be faded</li> </ul>
<b>SHIRTS &amp;/OR BLOUSES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collared, oxford, or polo shirts</li> <li>• Turtleneck, mock-turtleneck shirts</li> <li>• Rugby shirts with up to 3 button closure</li> <li>• Casual dress shirts tucked or untucked; buttoned</li> <li>• Unacceptable: T-shirts, or any shirt with graphics/logos, words or hoodies, tanks or sleeveless shirts</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Modest shirts/blouses with or without collars, sleeveless must cover to the edge of and underarm opening.</li> <li>• Polo shirts, sweaters, vests, turtlenecks</li> <li>• Rugby shirts with up to 3 button closure</li> <li>• Casual dress shirts tucked or untucked; buttoned</li> <li>• Unacceptable: bare midriffs when arms raised, bare backs; sheer, low-cut, or revealing tops; exposed bras or straps; t-shirts, or any shirt with graphics/logos, words or hoodies, tank tops</li> </ul>
<b>SWEATERS &amp; OUTERWEAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardigans &amp; pullover sweaters and sweater vests</li> <li>• Fleece vests &amp; jackets, GHCA shirts, and hoodies (a dress code-compliant shirt must be worn underneath GHCA hoodies)</li> <li>• Unacceptable: outdoor coats, hats, gloves, sweatshirts with graphics/logos, words, or hoodies</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cardigans &amp; pullover sweaters and sweater vests</li> <li>• Fleece vests &amp; jackets, GHCA shirts, and hoodies (a dress code-compliant shirt must be worn underneath GHCA hoodies)</li> <li>• Unacceptable: outdoor coats, off-the-shoulder sweaters, hats, gloves, sweatshirts with graphics/logos, words, or hoodies</li> </ul>
<b>SHOES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic, sneakers, casual, crocs, dress shoes; and socks required;</li> <li>• Sandals (<i>Sep, Oct, Apr, May, Jun</i>)</li> <li>• Separate pair of gym sneakers to leave at school</li> <li>• Unacceptable: military boots, cleats, moccasins, athletic or beach-style sandals, or flip-flops</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic, sneakers, casual, crocs, dress shoes; and socks required;</li> <li>• Sandals (<i>Sep, Oct, Apr, May, Jun</i>)</li> <li>• Separate pair of gym sneakers to leave at school</li> <li>• Unacceptable: cleats, slippers, moccasins, beach sandals, or flip-flops</li> </ul>
<b>JEWELRY &amp; TATTOOS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No body-piercing jewelry or earrings</li> <li>• No large-size or thick neck chains or chokers</li> <li>• No tattoos (real or fake) may be visible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No body-piercing jewelry except earrings</li> <li>• No tattoos (real or fake) may be visible</li> </ul>

<b>HAIR &amp;/OR MAKE-UP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed</li> <li>• Length: must be out of the eyes, and to the ears and collar</li> <li>• Must be clean-shaven (seniors may wear neatly groomed facial hair that is not distracting)</li> <li>• No distracting hairstyles or colors allowed including unnatural hair colors, designs, or unnatural color highlights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed</li> <li>• No distracting hairstyles or colors allowed including unnatural hair colors, designs, or unnatural color highlights</li> <li>• Make-up: tasteful, not excessive; giving a natural appearance.</li> </ul>
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## DRESS CODE FOR STUDENTS IN SEVENTH GRADE THROUGH TWELFTH GRADE (UPDATED 6/30/23)

	BOYS	GIRLS
<b>PANTS &amp; SHORTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dress pants or walking shorts made of chinos/khakis material only in black, blue, and tan colors</li> <li>• Shorts must be hemmed or cuffed (Sep, Oct, Apr, May, June) Pants must be hemmed not to be touching the floor or higher than the ankle</li> <li>• No boxers/briefs are to be visible</li> <li>• Modest-length walking shorts</li> <li>• Gym class/sports: loose fitting athletic pants or shorts of modest length/fit</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dress pants, capris, or shorts made of chinos/khakis material in only black, blue, and tan colors</li> <li>• Shorts must be hemmed or cuffed (Sep, Oct, Apr, May, June)</li> <li>• Pants must be hemmed and not be touching the floor or higher than the ankle</li> <li>• Mid-thigh length walking shorts</li> <li>• Girls may not wear leggings as pants</li> <li>• Gym class/sports: loose fitting athletic pants or shorts of modest length/fit</li> </ul>
<b>SKIRTS &amp; DRESSES</b>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Skirts or dresses must be solid-color</li> <li>• Length must fall to top of knee while standing, including slits, even when wearing leggings</li> <li>• Girls may wear dresses or skirts on days other than chapel days.</li> <li>• Girls must wear dresses or skirts to All-School Chapel</li> <li>• No tank dresses are allowed even with sweaters</li> </ul>
<b>SHIRTS &amp;/OR BLOUSES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid color 3-button polo shirt with short or long sleeves. All buttons must be buttoned except the top button</li> <li>• A solid-colored, button-down dress shirt or oxford with a tie must be worn for chapel. Also, the shirt must be tucked in at all times.</li> <li>• A suit coat or suit may be worn for chapel</li> <li>• No sweatshirts are to be worn on days when there is a chapel</li> <li>• Boys do not need to tuck in their shirts if they are wearing a straight-bottom polo shirt</li> <li>• No flannel shirts are to be worn</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solid color 3-button polo shirt or button-up shirt with short or long sleeves. All buttons must be buttoned except the top button</li> <li>• Girls may not wear ties</li> <li>• No flannel shirts are to be worn</li> </ul>
<b>SWEATERS &amp; OUTERWEAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May wear a solid-colored sweater, sweater vest, or GHCA sweatshirt or 3-quarter zip sweatshirt over the polo shirt. except during chapel</li> <li>• May not wear outdoor coats, hats, or gloves</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• May wear a solid-colored sweater, sweater vest, or GHCA sweatshirt or 3-quarter zip sweatshirt over the polo shirt. Accept during chapel. No off-the-shoulder sweaters allowed</li> <li>• May not wear outdoor coats, hats, or gloves</li> </ul>
<b>SHOES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic, sneakers, casual, dress shoes; and socks are required;</li> <li>• Sandals (<i>Sep, Oct, Apr, May, Jun</i>)</li> <li>• Separate pair of gym sneakers to leave at school</li> <li>• Unacceptable: military boots, cleats, moccasins, athletic or beach-style sandals, flip-flops, or Crocs</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Athletic, sneakers, casual, dress shoes; and socks are required except with dress shoes.</li> <li>• Sandals (<i>Sep, Oct, Apr, May, Jun</i>)</li> <li>• Separate pair of gym sneakers to leave at school</li> <li>• Unacceptable: cleats, slippers, moccasins, beach sandals, Crocs, or flip-flops</li> </ul>
<b>JEWELRY &amp; TATTOOS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No body-piercing jewelry or earrings</li> <li>• No large-size or thick neck chains or chokers</li> <li>• No tattoos (real or fake) may be visible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No body-piercing jewelry except earrings</li> <li>• No tattoos (real or fake) may be visible</li> </ul>

<b>HAIR &amp;/OR MAKE-UP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed</li> <li>● Length: must be out of the eyes, to the top of the ears on the sides, and to the collar in the back</li> <li>● Must be clean-shaven (seniors may wear neatly groomed facial hair that is not distracting)</li> <li>● No distracting hairstyles or colors allowed including unnatural hair colors, designs, or unnatural color highlights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Is to be kept clean, neat, and well-groomed</li> <li>● No distracting hairstyles or colors allowed including unnatural hair colors, designs, or unnatural color highlights</li> <li>● Make-up: tasteful, not excessive; giving a natural appearance.</li> </ul>
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**\*\* TEAM SPORT WARM-UPS MAY BE WORN ON GAME DAYS ONLY. THIS ATTIRE IS NOT ALLOWED TO BE WORN AT ANY POINT ON CHAPEL DAYS.**