

Providence School Uniform Policy

Rationale

Our Uniform Policy is driven by a desire to create and promote an environment where dress is not a distraction to the educational process. Several key principles to keep in mind:

1. Our goal is to honor God in all we do, acknowledging the Lordship of Jesus Christ in our choices.
2. All human actions, including outward manifestations such as clothing, reveal and communicate the disposition of the heart.
3. Clothing represents the vocational calling of student, and inherent in the uniform standards is a desire to create an environment where undue attention is not drawn to specific students.
4. Expectations differ for boys and girls, and modesty is expected in all manners of dress.
5. Parents are expected to actively support school uniform expectations.

Uniforms should be clean and in good repair, and students are expected to be in uniform while on campus unless specified otherwise. The administration is responsible for the determination of the policy, and the enforcement of the policy is the responsibility of parents, administration, faculty, and staff.

Clarifications

1. Where choices are given, please make sure the specific item (e.g. shoes, hair accessories, nail polish, etc.) does not draw unnecessary attention.
2. Modesty is expected in all areas with the goal of not drawing unnecessary attention to the student.
3. Undershirts/camisoles are optional but must be white.
4. Shirts/blouses may not have special edging or lace on the collars.
5. Pants for boys must be chino or dress pants in khaki color. Khaki can be further defined as light khaki but should not be camel or brown in color. Most shades of stone are acceptable, if not too light. Pants may not be jean-style, cargo-style, skin-tight, form-fitting, or excessively baggy. Dress pants should have in-seam slit pockets at the hip, not sewn-on exterior back pockets.
6. Jumpers and skirts must be at or below the knee at all times throughout the school year. Growth during the year is an insufficient reason for a short skirt.
7. Boys pants must touch the shoelaces when standing.
8. Shirts must be tucked in at all times.
9. Hair ornaments for Grammar girls should be plain navy blue, forest green, white, black, or school black watch plaid). Secondary girls have more flexibility with color.
10. Hair for all students should be natural colors only. Boys may not dye or highlight their hair. Extreme haircuts that draw unnecessary attention to students such as mohawks or shaved styles on girls or excessively long hair on boys (past the middle of the collar or routinely falling into the eyes) are not appropriate for school. Hairstyles such as "man buns," braids, or ponytails may not be worn by boys during school or any school or sports-related activity.
11. Grammar and middle school girls may wear one stud earring per ear. High school girls may wear one stud earring per ear or discreet gold or silver non-stud earrings. Girls may wear bracelets that do not draw unnecessary attention to themselves and may wear necklaces tucked inside the shirt. Boys may not wear jewelry other than a watch. Secondary boys may wear a bracelet.
12. Tattoos on students, including those that are semi-permanent, must be covered while students are on school grounds and participating in or attending school events.
13. Hats are not to be worn inside the building. Hats worn inside may be taken and put in the Special Box, or retained until the end of the school year (Hat exception: costumes for plays, special dress days, and presentations).
14. Secondary sports jerseys or warm-up attire may not be worn with the uniform. The one exception is on Fridays, when Providence sports outerwear, such as a team sweatshirt or jacket, may be worn over the uniform.
15. "Senior Dress Day" - Seniors may wear business attire commensurate with the faculty dress guidelines on Wednesdays.
16. Secondary girls may wear discreet facial makeup and nail polish. Grammar girls may not wear make-up except for lightly colored fingernail polish and lip gloss.
17. Grammar girls should wear navy or black bike shorts under their skirts daily.

Providence Uniform Policy 2019-2020

* Items must be purchased at Dennis Uniform

BOYS

REGULAR Uniform		
	Grammar	Secondary
Pants	Khaki-colored chino pants	Khaki-colored chino pants
Shirts	Forest green or white polo or turtleneck (no logos)	Navy or white polo shirt or turtleneck (no logos)
Socks	White, tan, or black crew-length socks	Tan or black solid crew-length dress socks
Belts	Black or dark brown belt	Black or dark brown belt
Shoes	Solid black, grey, white, or any conservative combination of these three colors, lace up or Velcro (no slip-ons).	Black, brown, or dark grey shoe. No colored or white soles permitted.
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy logoed sweatshirt or fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform)	Navy logoed sweatshirt or fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform) Blue blazer (optional) (Dennis Uniform)
DRESS Uniform		
	Grammar	Secondary
Pants	Khaki-colored chino pants	Khaki-colored dress pants
Shirts	White Oxford long-sleeve shirt (button-down collar)	White Oxford long-sleeve shirt (button-down collar)
Sweaters*	Navy logoed V-neck cardigan or V-neck vest (Dennis Uniform)	Navy logoed V-neck cardigan or V-neck vest (Dennis Uniform)
Ties*	Navy tie (clip on or four-in-hand) (Dennis Uniform)	House tie (Purchased directly from PCCS)
Socks	Tan or black crew-length socks	Tan or black solid crew-length dress socks
Belts	Black or dark brown belt	Black or dark brown belt
Shoes	Black or dark brown sturdy dress shoes (not tennis shoe styles)	Black, brown or dark grey leather shoes (not tennis-shoe styles) No colored or white soles permitted.
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy logoed fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform)	Navy logoed fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform) Navy blazer (optional) (Dennis Uniform)

GIRLS

REGULAR Uniform		
	Grammar	Secondary
Skirts/Jumpers*	Navy or black watch plaid skirt or jumper, or navy skort (Dennis Uniform)	Black watch plaid skirt or khaki skirt (Dennis Uniform)
Shirts and Blouses	Forest green or white polo or turtleneck (no logos) White Peter Pan blouse (long/short sleeve)	Navy or white polo or turtleneck (no logos) White, pointed collar, long/short sleeve blouse
Socks/Tights Bike Shorts/Leggings	Navy, black, or white ankle cuff, knee socks, or tights (no patterns). Navy or black bike shorts. Navy or Black Lands' End leggings.	Navy, black, or white knee socks or tights (modest patterns OK)
Shoes	Solid black, grey, white, or any conservative combination of these three colors, lace up or Velcro (no slip-ons) (1" heel or less) (no glitter, embellishments, lights, high tops, or booties)	Black, brown, or navy shoe (2" heel or less)
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy logoed sweatshirt or fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform)	Navy logoed sweatshirt or fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform)
DRESS Uniform		
	Grammar	Secondary
Skirts/Jumpers*	Black watch plaid skirt or jumper (Dennis Uniform)	Black watch plaid skirt (Dennis Uniform)
Shirts	White Peter Pan blouse - long sleeve only	White, pointed collar, long sleeve blouse
Sweaters*	Navy crew neck or V-neck cardigan or V-neck vest (Dennis Uniform)	Navy crew neck or V-neck cardigan or V-neck vest (Dennis Uniform)
Socks	Navy or black tights	Navy or black tights or nylons (not sheer / no patterns)
Shoes	Black or navy dress shoes (1" heel or less)	Black or navy dress shoes (2" heel or less, non-cloth, no boots or booties)
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy logoed fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform)	Navy logoed fleece jacket (Dennis Uniform)

*Please note: Pre-K may wear Grammar regular or Grammar dress uniform, but are never required to wear dress uniform.

Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Uniforms

Tops

- 1. May my child wear a polo shirt with an alligator logo on it?**
All polo shirts should be plain and should not have a brand or logo on them.
- 2. My daughter has a white polo with lace on her collar. Is this OK?**
Polo shirts and blouses must be unadorned for both boys and girls.
- 3. My child likes to wear his Oxford with the sleeves rolled up with the top button undone and the tie loose. Is that OK?**
As a general rule, no. All uniform pieces should be worn as intended. Occasionally, however, exceptions are made by teachers or the principal during hot weather.
- 4. Does my son or daughter need to wear a polo under a sweatshirt, fleece, or sportswear on regular dress days even if they don't plan to take it off during the day?** Yes. These are all considered "optional outerwear" and do not *replace* the shirt uniform requirement. The one exception is if the Friday sports or school sponsored attire is a shirt rather than outerwear. Students are not expected to wear shirts under a shirt.

Bottoms

- 1. My son's pants have a hole in one of the knees. Are they appropriate to wear to school?**
It's time to retire that pair. All uniforms should be in good repair.
- 2. What does "knee length" mean for skirts?**
The skirt should come to the back of the young lady's knee while she is standing. While we don't ask girls to do this, skirts should pass the "kneel test" – that is, the skirt should touch the floor if she is kneeling.
- 3. My grammar school daughter has tights with an ornate pattern on them. Are they OK to wear?**
Tights for grammar school girls must be solid colored without designs.
- 4. My daughter has a run in her tights – is this OK?**
It's time to retire that pair. All uniforms should be in good repair.
- 5. Can my daughter wear leggings under her skirt?**
Approved navy blue or black leggings must be purchased at Lands' End (School Uniform Ankle Length Leggings - Item #433987BR4). Socks must still be worn with leggings. We recommend young ladies wear navy bike shorts under their skirts for modesty (and freedom of play on the playground).

Shoes and Accessories

- 1. My first grader cannot tie his shoes yet. Should he still wear shoes with laces?**
Please have him wear Velcro shoes until he is comfortable tying laces.
- 2. Do boots, booties and sandals count as shoes?**
For Grammar: Please select sturdy leather shoes or tennis shoes per the guidelines. For Secondary: Boys may wear dress ankle boots at any time (no combat or cowboy style). Secondary girls may wear dress ankle boots on regular dress days only. Sandals are not permitted.
- 3. Are Toms shoes OK to wear?**
For Grammar: Toms are wonderfully comfortable shoes, but because they are a cloth shoe, Toms and others like them are not OK to wear at school. For Secondary: cloth shoes are permitted, providing they meet all other shoe guidelines.
- 4. What are some examples of boys' hair styles that are not modest in style and appearance?**
Anything that will make him stand out in a group such as hair below his collar, hair that routinely falls into the eyes, or a Mohawk-style cut. Also, hairstyles such as "man buns," braids, or ponytails, may not be worn by boys during school or any school or sports-related activity.
- 5. What are some examples of grammar shoes that "draw unnecessary attention" to the person?**
Examples include shoes with bling, flashing lights, patterns, booties, or high tops.
- 6. What types of belts are OK to wear?**
Belts should be black or brown leather, with modest buckles.
- 7. My son says that dark no-show or low-cut socks qualify as dress socks. Is that true?**
No, it isn't. Socks must be crew length.
- 8. Is it OK for girls to wear colored hair accessories?**
Yes, hair accessories for grammar school girls should be school colors (black watch plaid, white, navy, forest green, or black) and should be modest in size and style to not draw unnecessary attention to her. Secondary girls have more flexibility with color.
- 9. May my daughter wear white athletic socks with her uniform?**
Socks for girls should be navy, black, or white in either an ankle cuff, knee sock, or tights style.

