

# 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 students, 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 AND GROOMING PRACTICES

### Boys:

1. Where choices are given, please make sure the specific item (e.g. shoes) does not draw unnecessary attention.
2. Pants for boys must be chino or dress pants in khaki color as defined and pictured on the school website. Grammar boys may wear navy chino or dress pants on regular uniform days. Pants may not be jean-style, cargo-style, form-fitting, or excessively baggy. Dress pants should have in-seam slit pockets at the hip, not sewn-on exterior back pockets.
3. Boys' pants may not be excessively short. Pants may not be rolled. Growth during the year is an insufficient reason for pants not meeting the guideline. Pants must either meet or be close to touching the top of the shoes.
4. Shirts must be tucked in at all times while in the building, and all polos must be worn with at least one button fastened.
5. Hair for boys should be natural colors only (no bleached or dyed hair). Extreme haircuts that draw unnecessary attention to students and are not appropriate include: mohawks; shaved styles, and ornamental cuts. No excessively long hair (past the middle of the collar or routinely falling into the eyes). Hairstyles such as "man buns," braids, or ponytails may not be worn by boys during school hours or at any school or sports-related activity. If a student's ears are covered by hair to the point that  $\frac{1}{4}$  of their total ear is covered, it is too long and needs to be cut. A student who is asked to cut his hair should cut it in such a way that it will not be out of compliance again in a few weeks.
6. No facial hair or sideburns below the ear.
7. Boys may not wear jewelry other than a watch. Secondary boys may wear a bracelet and/or a ring.

**Clothing Vendor: Lands' End**

[www.landsend.com/co/account/school-uniforms](http://www.landsend.com/co/account/school-uniforms)

8. 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.
9. Hats are not to be worn inside the building. Hat exception: costumes for plays, special dress days, and presentations.
10. Secondary sports outwear such as a team sweatshirt or warm-up shirt may not be worn with the uniform on any day except Fridays.
11. Senior Dress Day - Seniors may wear business attire commensurate with the faculty dress guidelines on Wednesdays.

**Girls:**

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. Undershirts/camisoles are optional but must be white.
3. Shirts/blouses may not have special edging or lace on the collars.
4. 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.
5. Shirts must be tucked in at all times while in the building, and all polos must be worn with at least one button fastened.
6. Hair ornaments for Grammar girls must be plain navy blue, evergreen, white, black, or school black watch plaid(navy/evergreen). Secondary girls have more flexibility with color.
7. Hair for girls should be natural colors only. No bleached or dyed hair (natural highlighting is ok). Extreme haircuts that draw unnecessary attention to students and are not appropriate include: mohawks; shaved styles; excessively short hair.
8. Grammar girls may wear one stud earring per ear. Secondary girls may wear one stud earring per ear or discreet non-stud earrings. Discreet means not too large or ostentatious, complements the uniform, and is not distracting. Secondary Girls may wear bracelets and rings that do not draw unnecessary attention to themselves. Girls may wear necklaces tucked inside the shirt.
9. Hats are not to be worn inside the building. Hat exception: costumes for plays, special dress days, and presentations.
10. Secondary sports outwear such as a team sweatshirt or warm-up shirt may not be worn with the uniform on any day except Fridays.
11. Senior Dress Day - Seniors may wear business attire commensurate with the faculty dress guidelines on Wednesdays.
12. Secondary girls may wear discreet facial makeup and nail polish. Nails may not be distracting or impede learning. Grammar girls may not wear make-up except for lightly colored fingernail polish and lip gloss.
13. Grammar girls should wear navy or black bike shorts under their skirts daily.

## UNIFORM COMPARISON GUIDE FOR GRAMMAR AND SECONDARY (REGULAR UNIFORM)

<b>BOYS</b>		
<b>REGULAR Uniform</b>		
	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Secondary</b>
Pants	Khaki-colored or navy chino pants	Khaki-colored chino pants
Shirts	Evergreen or white polo (logo optional)	Navy or white polo shirt (logo optional)
Socks	White, tan, blue, or black crew-length socks	Any dress sock (no athletic socks)
Belts	Black or dark brown belt	Black or dark brown leather or faux leather belt
Shoes	Black or dark brown sturdy shoes, or tennis shoes with laces or Velcro (no embellishment such as pictures, wheels, lights, etc.)	Black, brown, or dark grey shoes. No contrasting-colored or white soles/logos permitted.
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy sweatshirt or fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)	Navy sweatshirt or fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)
<b>GIRLS</b>		
<b>REGULAR Uniform</b>		
	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Secondary</b>
Skirts/Skortts/ Jumpers/Dresses*	Blackwatch plaid skirt, navy skort, blackwatch plaid jumper, green or navy short sleeve interlock dress (with logo, purchased from Lands' End).	Blackwatch plaid or khaki box pleat skirt, blackwatch plaid A-line skirt, navy skort, navy Ponte dress (with logo, from Lands' End).
Shirts and Blouses	Evergreen or white long/short sleeve polo White, Peter Pan collar, long/short sleeve blouse/polo	Navy or white polo White, pointed collar, long/short sleeve blouse
Socks/Tights/ Bike Shorts Leggings*	Solid navy, black, or white turn cuff socks, knee socks, or tights. Navy or black bike shorts. Navy or black Lands' End leggings.	Navy, black, or white knee socks or tights (modest patterns OK)
Shoes	Black, navy, or dark brown sturdy shoes (1" heel or less), or tennis shoes with laces or Velcro (no embellishment such as pictures, wheels, lights, etc.)	Black, brown, or navy shoe (2" heel or less). No colored or white soles permitted.
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy sweatshirt or fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)	Navy sweatshirt or fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)

\* Items must be purchased at Lands' End

## UNIFORM COMPARISON GUIDE FOR GRAMMAR AND SECONDARY (DRESS UNIFORM)

<b>BOYS</b>		
<b>DRESS Uniform</b>		
	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Secondary</b>
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 V-neck sweater or V-neck vest (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)	Navy V-neck sweater or V-neck vest (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)
Ties*	Navy clip-on tie (purchased directly from Providence)	House tie (purchased directly from Providence)
Socks	Tan, navy, or black crew-length socks	Any dress sock (no athletic socks)
Belts	Black or dark brown belt	Black or dark brown leather or faux leather belt
Shoes	Black or dark brown sturdy dress shoes – no tennis-shoe styles; no colored or white soles permitted.	Black, brown, navy, or dark grey dress shoes or dress boots – no tennis-shoe styles; No colored or white soles permitted
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)	Navy fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)
<b>GIRLS</b>		
<b>DRESS Uniform</b>		
	<b>Grammar</b>	<b>Secondary</b>
Skirts/Jumpers*	Blackwatch plaid skirt or jumper (Lands' End)	Blackwatch plaid skirt (Lands' End)
Shirts	White Peter Pan blouse/polo (long sleeve only)	White, pointed collar, long sleeve blouse
Sweaters*	Navy crew neck cardigan or V-neck vest (Lands' End)	Navy crew neck cardigan or V-neck vest (Lands' End)
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, brown, or navy dress shoes (2" heel or less, non-cloth, no boots or booties)
Outerwear to wear in classroom (optional)*	Navy fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)	Navy fleece jacket (with logo, purchased from Lands' End)

**\* Items must be purchased at Lands' End or directly through Providence**

***Note: Pre-K students 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 may not have a brand logo (school logo optional if purchased through Lands' End).*
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. Ties should be cinched at the top and all buttons should be buttoned. Shirt sleeves may be rolled during class but should always be down and buttoned for assemblies, during choral and band performances, and on field trips.*
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 leggings must be purchased at Lands' End (School Uniform Girls Tough Cotton Leggings - Item #522298-BP3). Socks must still be worn with leggings.*

**Clothing Vendor: Lands' End**

[www.landsend.com/co/account/school-uniforms](http://www.landsend.com/co/account/school-uniforms)

## 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. What are some examples of shoes that “draw unnecessary attention” to the person?  
*For Grammar: examples include shoes with bling, flashing lights, patterns, booties, or high tops.*  
*For Secondary: examples include shoes with excessively thick soles, patterns, or high-top tennis shoes.*
4. 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.*
5. 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 the middle of 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.*
6. What types of belts are OK to wear?  
*Belts should be black or brown leather or faux leather with modest buckles.*
7. My child says that dark no-show or low-cut socks qualify as dress socks. Is that true?  
*No, it is not. Athletic socks are not allowed in grammar or secondary, and 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, evergreen, 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?  
*No, socks for girls should be navy, black, or white in either an ankle turn cuff, knee sock, or tights style.*