

Upper Division Dress Code

The Upper Division dress code provides students and parents with clear expectations for appropriate attire at Academy at the Lakes. Upper Division students have the opportunity to make choices, but it is up to the parents and administrators to guide them. Parents who actively participate in partnership with Academy at the Lakes to create an atmosphere of appropriate dress and demeanor give the faculty the support they need for dress code enforcement. Active learning in an academic setting requires focus and attention for students, faculty and administrators. Appropriate dress within the dress code parameters creates an atmosphere that is conducive to that experience.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS: Parents comprise the first line of defense against dress code violations. Students who are in violation of the Dress Code will be given a Dress Code Violation. If violations are deemed egregious, the students *must* change into proper clothing before they return to class – either their parents will be called, students will drive home with permission or they will wear clothing the school provides. Parents/Students can avoid this by addressing the issue at home before the students go to school, or students can bring dress-code acceptable clothing with them. If the proper clothing is left with an administrator, then there will be no dress code violations. We encourage the students and their families to be proactive. For example, students may ask about or even show questionable items to an administrator before wearing the clothes. The Upper Division Director or Dean of Students will make the final determination as to the propriety of a student's dress or appearance. Should you have any questions about the dress code, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

General Guidelines for Students

- No item of clothing may display conspicuous writing or logos acknowledging or promoting any commercial entity – whether it refers to a band, pop culture icon, brand of clothing or other product or service. Discreet logos on the front breast pocket or shoulder area are permissible. Sweatshirts may display the name and logo of a college or university only.
- Styles that are too sloppy or provocative are unacceptable.
- Clothing must fit properly - neither too tightly nor too baggy.
- Clothing may not be torn, frayed or ripped.
- No leather clothing (except jackets) is allowed.
- Denim blue jean clothing, including jackets of any style, is not permissible.

Shirts/Tops

Boys/Girls

- Academy team polos may be worn on Fridays or game days. Spirit shirts, which include House t-shirts and any Academy t-shirt that the student has acquired through involvement in school activities, may be worn on Fridays.
- Sweatshirts that have a hood may not be worn with the hood up. Sweatshirts may be worn only over appropriate dress code tops. Sweatshirts may not be worn on Business Attire Days.
- Non-collared shirts may not be sheer, wrinkled or too casual.

- Button-down shirts must be buttoned.

Girls:

- Upper garments may not reveal cleavage or midriff (when hands are raised above head, belly should not show).
- Sleeveless tops must have straps that are at least 3 fingers wide.
- A top (with straps that are at least 3 fingers wide) must be worn underneath off-the-shoulder blouses, sheer blouses or weaved sweaters.
- Scooped-back and racerback shirts and dresses are not permissible.
- Bra straps or undergarments of any kind may not be visible.

Bottoms/Coordinates

Girls:

- Stockings/Tights are expected to be appropriate for school and worn with a skirt or dress.
- Solid color jeans or joggers, not made from athletic or sleepwear material, are permissible.
- Proper opaque leggings, not workout/yoga pants or tights, are allowed if they are worn with appropriate-length tops – **five** inches above the knee.
- Skirts and dresses must be no shorter than **three** inches from the top of the kneecap.
- Shorts must be no shorter than **five** inches from the top of the kneecap.

Boys:

- Slacks and shorts must be worn at the waist and secured with a belt if the shirt is worn tucked in.
- Solid color jeans or joggers, not made from athletic or sleepwear material, are permissible.
- Shorts must not be shorter than **five** inches above the knee nor go below the knee.
- Underwear must not be visible.

Footwear

- Feet must be appropriately covered in P.E. and art class.

- Science students must wear appropriate (protective) shoes during labs.
- All footwear must be secured around the heel with a back or strap; no flip-flops or slides.
- Excessively high-heeled shoes (three inches or higher) are not appropriate for school. This includes business attire days.

Hair and Accessories:

- Extreme hairstyles are not permitted; hair should be neat, clean and non-distracting.
- Boys are permitted to wear neatly groomed facial hair.
- Hats may not be worn during the school day - except during PE classes.
- Tattoos must be covered and not visible.
- Visible piercing, other than earrings, may not be worn.

Business Attire Days

Several days during the year are designated as “Business Attire Days.” On these days, the students are required to dress in clothing appropriate for a professional workplace: Days of Manners, days of honors ceremonies, certain all-school assemblies, and when a guest speaker is on campus.

Girls are expected to wear a dress, skirt, or dress slacks (not everyday pants) and a collared, button-down shirt or blouse. Dresses must cover 3-fingers width on the shoulder. Skirts/dresses must not be shorter than **three** inches from the top of the kneecap. Dress shoes aren’t required to have heels, but athletic shoes are not allowed.

Boys are required to wear dress slacks (not everyday pants) and a collared, button-down shirt. Black or brown formal leather dress shoes, non-white socks, and a belt are expected. A tie is optional.