



Student Dress Code and Uniform Guidelines

General Uniform Guidelines

Clear Water Academy's dress code contributes in a very important way to the overall sense of unity as a school community. It enhances the learning atmosphere, adds a sense of pride, and reduces negative competition among the students. Clear Water Academy students are expected to wear their uniform in a manner that portrays a positive and modest self-image, conveys personal neatness and cleanliness, and demonstrates an attitude of excellence in performance and achievement. All students are expected to be in the appropriate uniform each day. **All required uniform pieces, with the exception of gym strip, must be purchased from Top Marks, our uniform supplier.**

There are two uniform periods known as "Summer Uniform" and "Winter Uniform". Special occasions require the "Formal Uniform".

Mandatory formal uniform days include:

- First Day of School
- Picture Day
- Any All-School Mass, Awards Ceremonies, and Special Event (Welcome Back Mass, All Saints' Day Presentations, Advent Concert, Christmas Mass, Ash Wednesday Mass, Celebration of Learning, Mother's Day Tea, Crowning of Mary Ceremony, Year-End Mass, etc.)
- Any special classroom or school project presentations as decided by the teacher

Summer uniforms are in effect from the second day of school until October 31 and from the first day back after Easter break until the end of the year, except on formal uniform days. Winter uniforms are in effect from November 1 to the Friday before the Easter break.

Please label all uniform pieces, outerwear, and footwear with your child's name.

If a student is missing a uniform piece, they will be given the item to borrow if it is available. The parent/guardian will be called and informed that the item has been lent out. We expect the item to be cleaned and returned the following day. If we do not have the piece available, the front office will call the parent/guardian to request that the uniform piece be brought to school.

Dress-down day requirements:

- Please follow the direction of the homeroom teacher regarding the purpose and requirements of a dress-down day. If a student does not meet the requirements or does not wish to participate, he or she should wear the school uniform.
- Clothing must be clean, modest, and in good condition. No ripped clothing.
- Students are not permitted to wear leggings or tight-fitting clothing.
- Students are not permitted to wear clothing with inappropriate language or messaging, including images.

Prescription and non-prescription sunglasses, ball caps, or sun hats may be worn on sunny days outside during recess but cannot be worn inside the school building at any time.

Additional Elementary Uniform Guidelines

In addition to the uniform pieces that are required from our supplier, Top Marks, we have the following additional requirements:

- No nail polish, gel, or other fake nails.
- No makeup.
- Boys' hair should be above the ears, eyebrows, and collar, neatly kept with no unnatural colour.
- Girls' hair should be neatly kept with no unnatural hair colour.
- Hair accessories should be simple and have the school colours – white, black, blue, or red.
- Girls' indoor shoes should be black leather (polishable) Mary-Jane or loafer-style dress shoes; closed toe and heel; firm sole and moderate heel. The outsole, embellishments, and accents should be black. [Click here to view examples of acceptable and unacceptable indoor shoes.](#)
- Boys' indoor shoes should be black leather (polishable) Oxford dress shoes with slip-on, lace, Velcro, or buckle closure. The outsole, embellishments, and accents should be black. [Click here to view examples of acceptable and unacceptable indoor shoes.](#)
- Girls are permitted to have single ear piercings and wear small (dime size or smaller) earrings that do not dangle. No other piercings are allowed.
- Boys are not allowed piercings.
- Jewelry, including watches, is limited to one item per hand or arm - no smartwatches or wearable technology.
- Swimsuits must be modest in nature. Girls should wear a one-piece bathing suit or tankini that mimics the look of a one-piece. Boys should wear shorts-style trunks.
- **Summer Uniform (polo shirt) may be worn from the second day of school until October 31st and after Easter break until the last day of school, except for dates indicated as "Full Uniform" on the school calendar**

Please read the [Uniform Guidelines Summary](#).

Additional Uniform Guidelines for Secondary Boys

Additional Guidelines:

- Boys must have their polo shirt hemmed 5 inches below the waist and are not required to tuck it in.
- Neck ties must be clipped or tied neatly and securely at the neck.
- Boys' indoor shoes should be black leather (polishable) Oxford dress shoes with slip-on, lace, Velcro, or buckle closure. The outsole, embellishments, and accents should be black. [Click here to view examples of acceptable and unacceptable indoor shoes.](#)
- Blazers are to be hung in student lockers at school when they are not being worn.
- Students are only permitted to have the top button undone on their polo shirt.
- Hair must always be neat, clean, well-groomed, and cut to a length that is above the shirt collar, above the ears, and above the eyebrows.
- Beards, moustaches, tails, sideburns, unusual or "trendy" hairstyles (including dying or tinting) and the like are not permitted. Grade 12 male students are permitted a well-groomed and maintained mustache and/or beard at the school's discretion.
- Body piercing (lip, nose, ear, eyebrow etc.) and tattoos are not permitted.
- Boys are allowed to wear one simple watch or bracelet per arm, one simple ring and one simple religious medallion on a chain.
- Violations of the grooming regulations will result in disciplinary action. If the violation is repeated or extreme the student may be suspended until the situation is corrected.
- **Summer Uniforms may be worn from the third day of school to October 31st and after Easter break to the end of the school year. This consists of a navy polo shirt for Grade 7-9 and a black polo shirt and beige dress pants for Grades 10-12.**

Please read the [Uniform Guidelines Summary](#).

Additional Uniform Guidelines for Secondary Girls

Additional Guidelines:

- Girls must have the shirt hemmed 5 inches below the waist, and are not required to tuck it in.
- The kilt should fall to knee-length or slightly above (within 2 inches of the top of the knee). Rolling it at the waist is not permitted.
- Students are only permitted to have the top button undone on their polo shirt.
- Blazers are to be kept on hangers at school when they are not being worn.
- Girls' indoor shoes should be black leather (polishable) Mary-Jane or loafer-style dress shoes; closed toe and heel; firm sole and moderate heel. The outsole, embellishments, and accents should be black. [Click here to view examples of acceptable and unacceptable indoor shoes.](#)
- Hair must always be neat, clean, and well-groomed. Hair accessories must be complementary to the uniform colours. Unusual, "trendy," or unnatural hairstyles and colours are not permitted.
- Girls are allowed to wear up to two pairs of earrings (two per ear), one simple religious necklace, and one simple watch or bracelet per arm. Rings, one per hand, are permitted.
- For female students in Grade 9 and up, light cosmetics and fingernail polish may be used in moderation. Fingernails should be a reasonable length so that it is safe for sports and do not draw undue attention to oneself, subject to the school's discretion. All applications of cosmetics should be minimal, not drawing attention to oneself.
- Body piercing (excluding ears) and tattoos are not permitted on any visible area of the body.
- Violations of the grooming regulations will result in disciplinary action. If the violation is repeated or extreme the student may be suspended until the situation is corrected.
- **Summer Uniforms may be worn from the second day of school until October 31 and after Easter break to the end of the school year. This consists of a navy polo shirt for Grades 7-9, and a black polo shirt for Grades 10-12.**

*The administration has full discretion with regards to dress, make-up, and hair styles.

Please read the [Uniform Guidelines Summary](#).

Secondary School Casual Dress Day Guidelines

Casual Dress Day Requirements:

- No visible tattoos are permitted.
- Clothing must be clean and in good condition without holes and/or tears.
- No clothing advertising politics, alcohol, drugs, sex, foul or obscene language, or disrespect for anyone.
- Shirts and tops must cover midriffs at all times, including during physical movement. No crop-tops.
- Shirts, tops, and dresses must not expose cleavage. They must have a full back, sleeves that fully cover the shoulder, and should not be excessively tight.
- Sheer or see-through clothing is not allowed. Undergarments must be completely covered.
- Dresses and skirts should fall to knee-length or slightly above (within 2 inches of the top of the knee), including during physical movement.
- No shorts allowed.
- Sweat pants, joggers, flannel (pajama pants), nylon or fleece pants are not allowed.
- Leggings and pants made of spandex or cotton/Lycra blend are not allowed.
- Pants must be worn at the waist-level, including during physical movement. "Sagging" is not acceptable.
- Shoes must be worn at all times on campus. Slippers/Sandals/Flip-flops are not allowed.

Physical Education Uniforms

For Boys & Girls in Junior Kindergarten - Grade 3

For Physical Education, students in Junior Kindergarten through Grade 3 are required to have a pair of non-marking gym runners. This is the only equipment they need for Physical Education.

For Boys & Girls in Grades 4-12

Physical Education uniform requirements for students in Grades 4-12 include:

School logo shorts (navy)

School logo T-shirt

White sports socks

Non-marking athletic shoes (separate from outdoor or uniform shoes)

Optional pieces may also be purchased through *vbs apparel* at various times throughout the school year. This includes sweatshirts, sweatpants, t-shirts, and shorts.

All items worn in Physical Education class must be Crusader Athletics clothing.

Swimsuits must be modest in nature. Girls should wear a one-piece bathing suit or tankini that mimics the look of a one-piece. Boys should wear shorts-style trunks.

Students may not wear physical education or school team uniforms to and from school unless they are arriving for a morning practice or are extra-curricular team members leaving directly from the school campus for sporting events.

Each item of clothing (including outerwear, mitts, etc.) must be clearly marked with the student's name. Please check periodically to ensure legibility. The school is not responsible for lost items. A Lost and Found area is provided in each school building to facilitate the return of lost items. For Grades 4-6, students must wear non-marking gym runners and gym strips (t-shirt and shorts purchased through Top Marks and vbs apparel).

Outdoor Education Dress Code

All students must wear Clear Water Academy Crusaders apparel when taking part in the secondary Outdoor Education option. These items can be purchased through Top Marks and vbs apparel. If a student neglects to wear proper clothing for Outdoor Education, they will be unable to participate in the activity and will receive a zero grade for that day.