

## Uniform and Dress Code Policy

ACS has a primary objective of developing a "community of learners," dedicated to the highest standards of academics and deportment. As such, a distinctive uniform is a unifying factor within the school community. It is also a visible signature of ACS to the larger community, an indicator of the unity and pride of purpose. This is one of the most important functions of a uniform: it identifies its wearer as part of a distinctive group with a distinctive purpose. It is a reminder to its wearer of that purpose and of one's responsibility to that group.

The uniform is the basis of a dress code with a "professional," business-like standard. Students should dress their best, look their best, and do their best. All clothing must be clean, neat, reasonably pressed, and in properly fitting condition. If a student is deemed to be wearing inappropriate attire, the parent/guardian will be notified, and a change of clothing may be required for attendance that day. If in doubt about the appropriateness of an article of clothing, check with the school office before purchasing. Good judgment exercised at home will be a learning activity for the student that will help to avoid embarrassment or wasted time at school. Decisions about the appropriateness of apparel may be referred to the Headmaster, whose judgment will be final. The Headmaster may make specific exceptions to the dress code, as demanded by particular religious customs.

Students must stay in uniform whenever they are on campus (including the parking lot) during a school day. This means arriving on campus fully in uniform and leaving campus fully in uniform (correct shoes, shirts tucked in, etc.). Students may only change out of uniform after school with teacher/coach permission to participate in an approved curricular or extracurricular activity that requires an immediate change in dress.

***If the cost of the uniform presents a financial hardship for your family, please contact the school office for assistance.***

### Optional Face/Mask Coverings

No messaging permitted on face/mask coverings (with exception of academy-related messages). Varied Colors and patterns are permitted.

### Boy's Uniform and Dress Code

#### **Boy's Shirts**

- a. Short or long sleeve polo with school crest
- b. Color: White, baby blue
- c. Fit: Shirt must always remain tucked in
- d. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms

#### **Boy's Pants**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Style: Flat or pleated-front dress pants—no jeans or cargo pants—with belt loops and a solid, dark belt
- c. Fit: Pants should reach the shoe but not drag on the ground. No excessively baggy or tight-fitting pants will be permitted. Pants should be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- d. Vendor: Any as long as pants are indistinguishable from the approved vendor pants.

### **Boy's Shorts**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Style: Flat or pleated-front walking shorts. Shorts should fall mid-thigh and not be longer than the knee, with belt loops and a solid dark belt.
- c. Fit: No excessively-baggy or tight-fitting shorts will be permitted. Shorts should be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- d. Vendor: Any as long as the shorts are indistinguishable from the approved vendor.

### **Boy's Shoes**

- a. Color: The shoes should be solid white OR solid black—this includes sole and shoelaces.
- b. No colors on the shoes or soles. (Black shoes must have black soles and white shoes must have white soles.)
- c. No neon or bright colored shoelaces. (Black shoes must have black laces and white shoes must have white laces.)
- d. Style: Athletic (tennis, Keds) shoes (no slip-ons or dress shoes)

### **Boy's Socks**

- a. Color: Black, navy, or white
- b. Length: Ankle socks

### **Girl's Uniform and Dress Code**

#### **Girl's Shirts**

- a. Short or long sleeve polo with school crest
- b. Color: White, baby blue
- c. Fit: Shirt must always remain tucked in.
- d. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms

#### **Girl's Pants**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Style: Flat or pleated-front dress pants—no jeans or cargo pants—with belt loops and a solid, dark belt.
- c. Fit: Pants should reach the shoe but not drag on the ground. No excessively baggy or tight-fitting pants will be permitted. Pants should be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- d. Vendor: Any as long as pants are indistinguishable from the approved vendor pants.

#### **Girl's Shorts**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Style: Flat or pleated-front walking shorts. Shorts should fall mid-thigh and not be longer than the knee, with belt loops and a solid dark belt.
- c. Fit: No excessively baggy or tight-fitting shorts will be permitted. Shorts should be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- d. Vendor: Any as long as the shorts are indistinguishable from the approved vendor.

#### **Girl's Jumper**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Length: The skirt hem may be no higher than just above the knee, both in front and in back. Skirts must be worn at the waist.
- c. Dark spandex tight-fitting shorts must be worn under the jumper.
- d. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms

#### **Girl's Skort and/or Skirt**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Length: The skirt hem may be no higher than just above the knee, both in front and in back. Skirts must be worn at the waist.
- c. Dark spandex tight-fitting shorts must be worn under the skirt
- d. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms

### **Girl's Shoes**

- a. Color: The shoes should be solid white OR solid black—this includes sole and shoelaces.
- b. No colors on the shoes or soles. (Black shoes must have black soles and white shoes must have white soles.)
- c. No neon or bright colored shoelaces. (Black shoes must have black laces and white shoes must have white laces.)
- d. Style: Athletic (tennis, Keds) shoes. (No slip-ons or dress shoes.)

### **Socks and Tights**

- a. Color: Navy blue or white opaque knit socks or nylon tights
- b. Length: Ankle or knee-high socks
- c. Style: No patterns, colored trim, bows, or lace trims. Socks must show above the shoe.

### **General Uniform and Dress Code Option for All Students**

#### **Shirts**

- a. Short or long sleeve polo with school crest
- b. Color: White, Baby blue
- c. Fit: Shirt must always remain tucked in
- d. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms

#### **Pants**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Style: Flat or pleated-front dress pants—no jeans or cargo pants—with belt loops and a solid, dark belt.
- c. Fit: Pants should reach the shoe but not drag on the ground. No excessively baggy or tight-fitting pants will be permitted. Pants should be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- d. Vendor: Any as long as pants are indistinguishable from the approved vendor pants.

#### **Shorts**

- a. Color: Navy blue
- b. Style: Flat or pleated-front walking shorts. Shorts should fall mid-thigh and not be longer than the knee, with belt loops and a solid dark belt.
- c. Fit: No excessively baggy or tight-fitting shorts will be permitted. Shorts should be worn at the waist with no undergarments visible.
- d. Vendor: Any as long as the shorts are indistinguishable from the approved vendor

#### **Sweater**

- a. Color: Navy with school logo
- b. Style: V-neck cardigan button-front
- c. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms (cannot be purchased elsewhere)

#### **Fleece Jacket**

- a. Color: Navy with school logo
- b. Style: Front full-length zipper
- c. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms (cannot be purchased elsewhere)

#### **Sweatshirt**

- a. Color: Navy with school logo
- b. Style: Quarter-zip navy
- c. Vendor: Dennis Uniforms or Anton Uniforms (cannot be purchased elsewhere)

### **Outerwear**

Heavy jackets, scarves, and gloves/mittens may be worn to school for warmth in cold weather but must be free of logos and messages. Heavy jackets, scarves, and gloves/mittens may only be worn before/after school, and at recess. Upon entering the school, they must be stored with backpacks and may not be worn in the classrooms. All sweatshirts, fleece jackets, and sweaters must be from Anton/Dennis uniforms and have the school logo.

### **Hair, Jewelry and Makeup**

**Girl's Hair:** Hair should be neatly combed or styled. Neat small bows, barrettes, headbands, and hair ties are permissible so long as they coordinate with the uniform. Hair must be natural looking and conservative in its color and cut (no unnatural streaking/highlighting, no artificial jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors). Accommodations for religious reasons are permitted.

**Boy's Hair:** Hair should be neatly combed or styled. Hair must be above the top of the shirt collar. Hair should be styled so that it does not fall below the eyebrows or past the midpoint of the ear. Hair must be natural looking and conservative in its color and cut (no unnatural streaking/ highlighting, no artificial jet-black coloring, and no unnatural colors). Accommodations for religious reasons are permitted.

**Jewelry:** Girls may wear small studded earrings. No loops or dangling earrings are permitted. Boys may not wear earrings. No other body piercings are permitted. All students are permitted to wear one watch. This may not be a smart watch. Bracelets, rings, and necklaces are not permitted unless for religious reasons.

**Makeup/Nail Polish:** Students may not wear makeup of any kind. Girls may wear light pink (no bright, dark, or neon pink) or clear nail polish only. No French tips or artificial nails.

### **Additional Guidelines**

Hats and sunglasses may only be worn outside and must be removed when the student enters the building.

Student's skin should be free of any painted or ink drawings or tattoos of any kind. Students should not draw on themselves or on others. Temporary or permanent tattoos are not permitted; to include pen and ink drawings on the skin.

If an item of dress or appearance is deemed incongruent with the standards of ACS by staff, the student must alter their dress or appearance in accordance with staff's directive. Uniform items must be size appropriate, neat in appearance and free of stains, tears, or excessive wear. Temporary or permanent tattoos are not permitted; to include pen and ink drawings on the skin.

### **Athletic Practice and Outdoor Field Day Dress Code**

All shirts worn for athletic practices and field day should be modest, loose fitting, in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.), should be worn either tucked in or well over the waist of the pants/shorts if not tucked in. No midriffs may be shown. T-shirts are preferred—no tank tops, camisoles, or sports bras may be worn as outer-garments. Sleeveless shirts may be worn if modest.

Pants/shorts should be modest and in good repair (no holes, torn sleeves, etc.) No short-shorts or long baggy shorts may be worn. No boxers or undergarments may be visible.

Attire should be free of inappropriate messages. Sports team logos (e.g., Diamondbacks, Notre Dame), and apparel brand names (e.g., Adidas, Nike) are acceptable, provided they do not make inappropriate allusions. These guidelines also apply to sweatshirts and jackets that students may wear. Footwear should be athletic in nature: no sandals, open-toed, or platform shoes. Hats and sunscreen may be appropriate if the students will be in the sun. Hat styles should follow the same guidelines as above.

### **Backpacks**

Students may bring backpacks and lunchboxes to and from school. These items must be stored on the designated shelving units in the classroom during the school day. Due to small storage spaces, rolling backpacks are not permitted without a doctor's note. Backpacks and lunchboxes should be free of icons of pop culture (peace signs, cartoon characters, tie-dyed patterns etc.) as well as messages that are offensive or inappropriate to ACS's environment.

ACS staff may search and seize property when there is reason to believe that some material or matter is present that is detrimental to the health, safety, or welfare of students.