

## Appendix B: Uniform & Dress Code

### General Rules for Attire and Appearance

The Chesterton Academy of Annapolis dress code supports the school's purpose of forming morally serious persons. Our uniform provides students and local communities with an appearance that encourages and represents school identity, school spirit, unity, discipline, as well as a gold standard for an academic and professional look, the origins of which are classic and traditional.

The tradition of uniforms goes back to Medieval times when caps and gowns were required at universities. All students, regardless of background, would dress alike, and all would show an outward sign of their dedication to the task of learning together within the university community. It promotes the values inherent in our school's mission and allows our students to be recognized as members of the academy.

From the very beginning, school uniforms have helped achieve three goals: **modesty**, **professionalism**, and **community**. Our uniform policy aims to achieve the same three goals.

#### MODESTY

We have all heard the expression, "He/she is just being modest," usually when someone resists drawing attention to themselves. This phrase captures the heart of modesty because modesty is a form of humility. Modesty resists calling undue attention to oneself in speech or in dress. We ask our students to dress modestly on campus whether they are in uniform or out of uniform.

#### PROFESSIONALISM

We ask the students to wear the uniform so they look professional. The work that we do at school is part of a student's life that is extraordinary, set apart from the ordinary routines of life. In our Western tradition, we dress up for extraordinary events to show their importance. We dress up for Mass and for the work day, and we dress up for school. We ask that the uniforms are neat and clean. Our young men wear ties that are neatly fastened, with shirt cuffs rolled down and buttoned. Our young ladies wear skirts and choose accessories that are fitting for a professional atmosphere.

#### COMMUNITY

Finally, the uniform is an affirmation of community. When a student carefully adheres to the uniform code he or she is saying "Yes, I buy in. I am part of this team and I am proud to show it." For our upperclassmen, this is an aspect of leadership, a way of showing the younger students that the right thing at Chesterton Academy is to affirm the importance of citizenship in our community and to bring new students into full membership in that community.

At Chesterton Academy, we strive together to learn the things important for our life in this world as

well as in the next. Professionalism, modesty, and community are important parts of that effort.

Students should be in uniform **at all times** while on school grounds, unless participating in a school sponsored after school activity with permission to change. Students must arrive and leave school in full uniform, including blazer.

It is the responsibility of both the parents and the student to know and abide by the school dress code standards and uniform expectations. Please make sure you are familiar with what is required and help your son or daughter to comply. When parents enroll their children in the school, it is with the understanding that the uniform code, along with other school expectations, regulations, and policies, will be followed.

Uniforms are just that--uniforms. They are not intended to reflect the fashion trends of the moment. The uniform policy pertains not only to clothing but also to accessories, jewelry, hair and like items. No article of clothing that is not part of the uniform (e.g. sweater, vest, sweatshirt, hooded sweatshirt, overcoat, raincoat, poncho, hat, etc.) may be worn in school.

Blazers, shirts, sweaters, trousers, skirts, ties and belts, should be **labeled** with the student's name. The label should be placed on the inside collar of the blazer, shirt and sweater, on the inside of the trousers and skirts and on the back of the tie and belt. This simple expedient will save much money and anguish.

## Uniform Vendor

The Chesterton Schools Network has selected [SchoolBelles](#) as its approved uniform vendor, based on pricing, quality, and service. Uniform components for ladies and gentlemen are detailed in the following pages.

“Out of uniform” guidelines are also provided for all Chesterton events, including those that occur outside of our normal school day.

## Ladies’ Uniform Policy

Chesterton Academy of Annapolis’s uniform vendor is SchoolBelles. Uniforms may be purchased at the store or online at <http://www.schoolbelles.com>. Use Code: **S3039**

ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION
<b>Skirt</b>	Gray	Length required is <b>mid-knee</b> to below-the-knee. If full kneecap is exposed while standing straight, the skirt is too short. Skirts are to be no shorter than the crease of the back of the knee. This usually requires ordering a size Long. The skirt should be worn on the waist and not on the hip.

<b>Oxford Shirt</b> Long or short sleeves	White w/logo	Basic white Oxford with buttons on collar . Collar buttons must always be buttoned. The shirt must not gap in front, and there should be no pulling on the buttons. The sleeves may not be rolled at any time.
<b>Bike Shorts</b>	Navy or Black	Navy or black bike shorts should be worn under skirt at all times.
<b>Socks</b>	Navy	Opaque, not cable. Knee highs must reach up to the knee. They should not be at mid-calf or lower.
<b>Tights</b> <i>Optional</i>	Black or Navy	Tights must be opaque with feet (no leggings).
<b>Dress Shoes</b>	Solid Black	Must be a dress shoe, solid black leather dress flats with closed toe and full back. Must be polished and clean. Simple ornamentation allowed (e.g., bow, tassel), no tags/labels/symbols on outside of shoe. No moccasins, canvas, or suede. No Keds, Sperry, Vans, Toms, Converse or similarly styled shoe.
<b>Cardigan/Vest</b>	Navy with Logo	- V-Neck style only; logo required - Sweaters are optional but strongly recommended.
<b>Blazer</b>	Navy with Logo	Standard two-button blazer, with logo
<b>Ladies' Choir Attire</b>	Black floor-length formal dress. Purchase from <a href="http://www.stageaccents.com">www.stageaccents.com</a> . #5269 Dahlia Girls or #8864 Dahlia Ladies black floor-length formal dress. Solid black dress flats. Dress should be hemmed to touch front toe of shoe. If questions, please ask before hemming.	

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Ladies should aim for a simple elegance that is appropriate for the high school years.
- Uniforms should always be clean and blouses always tucked in.
- Ladies should enter the building in complete uniform, and the uniform must be worn in full until leaving campus at the end of the school day.
- No sweatshirts, hoodies, or other non-uniform jackets should be worn over the uniform.

## Hair, Makeup and Accessories

- Hair should always be neatly groomed and clean.
- Hair color should be natural hues. No streaks of unnatural colors (reds, pinks, greens, etc.) on any part of hair.
- Hair accessories should be tasteful and professional. No headbands with athletic logos. No bandana headbands. Color of hair accessories should complement the uniform.
- No hats may be worn inside of school buildings.
- Makeup should look natural. Eyeliner should not extend beyond the natural lash line.
- Nail polish is allowed but should be muted, tasteful, and professional.
- Necklaces should be metal chains (no leather or woven materials). No tightly-fitting necklaces such as chokers.
- Earrings should be in the lobe ONLY. No gauges. No cartilage piercings or other visible piercings. No tattoos are allowed.
- Traditional watches may be worn, but smartwatches are not allowed.

- All jewelry should be tasteful, professional, and not excessive in size or number.

## Gentlemen's Uniform Policy

Chesterton Academy of Annapolis's uniform vendor is SchoolBelles. Uniforms may be purchased at the store or online at <http://www.schoolbelles.com>. Use Code: **S3039**

ITEM	COLOR	DESCRIPTION
<b>Pants</b> Pleated or flat front	Gray	We recommend that pants are purchased at the uniform store to ensure uniformity of fabric and color. Plain Front with Laurel Monogram Color 821 w/ small monogram (7322) Style #5202 – Plain
<b>Oxford Shirt</b> Long or short sleeves	White w/logo	- Must be a shirt with buttons on the collar - Collar buttons must always be buttoned #5760 – Short sleeve #5761 – Long sleeve
<b>Socks</b>	Solid Black/Gray	Dress sock must reach the calf. May be purchased from another vendor as long as they match pant color and are at least calf length. Ankle or calf may not be exposed at any time. Gold Toe Charcoal are the best.
<b>Leather Dress Shoes</b>	Solid Black	Must be a solid black dress shoe, including soles, and able to take a shine and have non-scuff soles. No obvious brand logos. Shoes are always required.
<b>Leather Belt</b>	Solid Black	Non-woven, leather belt with a simple buckle. This can be purchased at Schoolbelles (#6305) or from any vendor.
<b>Striped Tie "Four in Hand"</b>	Chesterton Stripe	Color for ties must be "Chesterton Stripe." Standard for all gentlemen is "four in hand" tie. <i>On designated occasions, gentlemen in grades 11-12 may also wear Chesterton Stripe bow ties to distinguish them as upperclassmen.</i>
<b>Blazer</b>	Navy with Logo	Standard two-button blazer, with logo
<b>Sweater/Vest</b>	Navy with Logo	-V-Neck style only; logo required - Sweaters are optional but strongly recommended (classrooms can get cold)
<b>Mens' Choir Attire</b>		Black dress pants and suit coat, white dress shirt (not oxford) and solid black bow tie. Solid black dress socks (must be to mid-calf) and black dress shoes (polished and in good condition). Some gentlemen choose to purchase a tuxedo from Stage Accents ( <a href="http://www.stageaccents.com">www.stageaccents.com</a> ), the Premier Tuxedo Ensemble #ENSB. No patterns on bow tie and no pocket squares, lapel pins, vests, etc. allowed.

## GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Gentlemen should aim for a simplicity that is appropriate for the high school years.
- Uniforms should always be clean, shirts ironed, and always tucked in.
- Only solid white tee shirts may be worn under the white oxford. No wording or pictures on the

tee shirt should be visible.

- Gentlemen should enter the building in complete uniform, and the uniform must be worn in full until leaving campus at the end of the school day.
- No sweatshirts, hoodies or other non-uniform jackets should be worn over the uniform.

### **Hair and Accessories**

- Hair should always be neatly groomed and clean.
- Hair must be trimmed above the eyebrows, ears, and collar.
- Hair color should be natural hues. No streaks of unnatural colors (reds, pinks, greens, etc.) on any part of hair.
- All young men should be clean-shaven, with sideburns not extending beyond the middle of the ear. Facial hair is not permitted.
- No hats may be worn inside of school buildings.
- No earrings. No gauges. Simple chains and medals should be tucked under the shirt.
- No visible piercings.
- Traditional watches may be worn, but smartwatches are not allowed.
- All jewelry should be tasteful, professional, and not excessive in size or number.

## Out of Uniform Dress Code

We live a full life together within the Chesterton community, enjoying sporting events, dances, and fine art performances both on campus and off campus. We expect all students to present themselves in a way that reflects their great dignity, and to dress in a modest and neat way at all Chesterton events, including those that occur outside of our normal school day.

### 1. SCHOOL DANCES AND “MORE FORMAL THAN NORMAL” SCHOOL DAYS

#### LADIES

- Semi-formal dress required (dress, dress pants and tops, skirts)
- Dress and skirt length should match uniform skirt length, which is mid-knee
- If leggings are worn, they must be worn underneath a skirt or dress that reaches to the knee
- When sitting with feet flat on floor, skirt or dress should cover top part of knee
- Necklines of modest cut, and no exposed back, shoulder or midriff
- Dress shoes (no Keds, Vans, Sperry, Toms or Converse-type shoes)
- Sleeveless tops or dresses should have at least 2” of fabric on top of shoulder
- No visible undergarments

#### GENTLEMEN

- Semi-formal dress required (khaki’s or better slacks, dress shirt)
- No jeans, shorts, sleeveless shirts, t-shirts, athletic shoes or Sperry, Vans, Toms, Converse-type shoes
- Pants and shirts should be loose-fitting
- No visible undergarments

**NOTE:** At times our school dances have themes that allow for students to dress in costume. Costume guidelines will be given prior to the dance.

### 2. CHOIR CONCERT PERFORMANCES, COMMENCEMENT, AND THE CHESTERTON GALA

Choir concert attire (see full choir uniform guidelines, above, for complete description):

- Ladies - black choir gown, black heels or flats
- Gentlemen - black suit, white button-down shirt, black bow tie, black leather belt, dress shoes

### 3. OTHER SCHOOL EVENTS (retreats, drama productions, athletic events, field days, lectures, after-school extra-curricular activities)

- Dress and skirt length should match uniform skirt length, which is mid-knee
- When shorts are permitted, please adhere to the following guidelines: with arms by your sides, the hem of the shorts must reach below your finger-tips
- No tight-fitting pants or tops
- No midriff exposed
- At least 2 inches of fabric on each shoulder for sleeveless attire
- No ratty, stained clothing
- No undergarments showing at any time