

## **DRESS CODE AND UNIFORM GUIDELINES**

Our development of a uniform policy is driven by a desire to create and promote an environment of learning where dress is not a distraction to the educational process. The motivation for the policy has grown out of the following principles:

1. Our goal is to honor God in all we do, acknowledging Him in our choices.
2. All human actions, including clothing, reveal and communicate the disposition of the heart at some level. It is our desire to address these heart issues in one uniform policy rather than seeking to anticipate and curb the numerous issues that surface throughout the year with a looser dress code.
3. Inherent in the uniform policy is a desire to create an environment where undue attention is not drawn to specific students. The neat appearance created by a uniform enhances a ready-to-learn atmosphere.
4. Uniforms help foster a cohesive presentation of the students in our school. When our students are in uniform it communicates, aesthetically, that they are part of the same team, working towards the same goals. The student is part of a group identity that strives for excellence.
5. The uniform code can save parents money. The uniform code de-emphasizes the social impact of dress and helps focus the students on character and academic issues.
6. The uniform code addresses security. On field trips, students in uniform aid the teachers in keeping track of everyone. On the playground or in school, teachers and staff can clearly identify students from outsiders.

Students are required to be in uniform while on campus during school hours unless specified otherwise by the administration. The administration is responsible for the interpretation of the policy, and the enforcement of the policy is the responsibility of parents, administration, faculty, and staff.

It is the desire of Alpha Omega to exemplify truth, beauty, and goodness.

All students' appearances should be neat, clean, and not distracting. This includes wearing garments which are properly sized for the wearer.

### **Approved Uniform Items:**

*Pants:* AOA's approved uniform twill khaki pants are available, from [Flynn O'Hara](#) store at their Houston location or on their website or [Lands' End School Uniform](#) website referencing AOA's school code **900048463**. Pants must be properly sized for the wearer and contain NO logos. Navy pants may be worn by 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades.



*Shorts:* AOA's approved uniform twill khaki shorts are available, from [Flynn O'Hara](#) store at their Houston location or on their website or [Lands' End School Uniform](#) website referencing AOA's school code **900048463**. Shorts must be properly sized for the wearer and contain NO logos. **Shorts must reach 2 inches above the knee of the wearer.** Navy shorts may be worn by 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades.



*Skirts/Skort:* AOA's approved skirts/skort are available only from [Flynn O'Hara](#). They can be purchased in store at their Houston location or via their website. Skirts/Skort may be AOA plaid (available only from [Flynn O'Hara](#)), khaki, or navy. **Skirts/Skort must reach 2 inches above the knee of the wearer.** Navy skirts may be worn by 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades.

*Jumpers:* AOA's approved skirts/skort are available only from [Flynn O'Hara](#). They can be purchased

in store at their Houston location or via their website. Approved jumpers are AOA plaid only. **Jumpers must reach 2 inches above the knee of the wearer.** Jumpers are for students Pre-K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade only.

*Shirts:* Approved uniform shirts are the following: Uniform color (navy, white or hunter green) polo shirts (short or long-sleeved); uniform color turtleneck or mock turtleneck shirts; chambray button down shirts (short or long-sleeved); and white dress shirts (short or long-sleeved). The style and color must match those in the [Flynn O'Hara](#) store at their Houston location or on their website or [Lands' End School Uniform](#) website referencing AOA's school code **900048463**.

All shirts must be without a logo, except for the [Land's End School Uniform](#) or [Flynn O'Hara](#) Alpha Omega Academy approved logo.

Polo shirts, turtleneck shirts, mock turtleneck shirts, button down shirts and dress shirts must be tucked in at all times.

Long-sleeved navy sweaters or sweater vests may be worn. The style and color must match those on the [Lands' End School Uniform](#) website referencing AOA's school code **900048463**.

*Outerwear (This refers to what is worn in the building throughout the day.):* Hoodies or sweatshirts (full-zip, half-zip, or no zip) in navy may be worn. **No logos permitted. Only solid navy colored hoodies or sweatshirts.** If hoodies are worn, a tucked in uniform shirt must be worn underneath.

*Coats:* Coats are defined as outerwear with long sleeves and a zip-up or button-up front. Coats may be of any color or style. Inappropriate slogans or logos will not be allowed (e.g., alcohol, tobacco, violent graphics, profanity, skull and crossbones, etc.). This refers to outside jackets that are removed while inside the building.

*Belts:* A belt should be worn with pants and shorts. Belts may be any solid uniform color (navy, white or hunter green), black or brown.

*Socks:* Socks must be worn with shoes. Clearly visible socks (i.e. socks that show above the ankle) must be navy, white, hunter green, or black and must be the same color.

*Shoes:* Closed-toed shoes or boots must be worn. Mud and/or rain boots are not permitted.

### **Other Dress Code Items:**

*Undergarments* - appropriate undergarments must be worn at all times. Undergarments may not be visible at any time, except for undershirts which must be either a uniform color (navy, white or hunter green) or grey. It is recommended that girls wear shorts or spandex under skirts. When ladies wear light colored uniform shirts (i.e. white shirts), undergarments and camisoles/tank tops must be of a neutral color.

*Leggings/knee high socks* – Solid, ankle length leggings and knee high socks in either a uniform color (navy, white, or hunter green), black or neutral may be worn with skirts. Socks must be the same color.

*Ties* – Ties may be worn with dress shirts.

*Hats* – Hats may be worn outside the school buildings before and after school.

*Hair* - Hair must be kept clean and neat, must not hang in the eyes and must not be a distraction. Hair must be a natural color. Boys must be clean shaven. Sideburns must not extend below the ear lobe.

*Piercings and Tattoos* – No body piercing (except for girls' ears) or visible tattoos are permissible.

*P.E. Uniforms* – Students in 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade are required to wear a P.E. uniform while in P.E. class. The approved P.E. uniforms are sold by Land's End School website referencing AOA's school code **900048463**. Students participating in athletics are required to wear clothes prescribed by the coach of the sport in which they participate.

\*\* Dress Code Guidelines reviewed by committee February 2021

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Tops:**

1. My child would prefer to just wear their school appropriate sweatshirt or hoodie without a shirt underneath. Is that ok? ***No, it isn't. A polo style uniform shirt must be worn at all times.***

### **Bottoms:**

What kinds of leggings are acceptable? ***Stockings, tights, and nylons are fine. Leggings under skirts must be solid, with no designs or texture, in a uniform color (white, navy, hunter green) or black. Leggings must be ankle length.***

My daughter has some nylons with black cats woven into them. Are these OK? ***No, they are not. Socks, stockings, tights, nylons, and leggings must be conservative, plain, and solid colored. Stripes, diamonds, and cats, even of the same color, are not allowed.***

### **Accessories & Miscellaneous:**

How do I know how tight is too tight for my daughter's blouses, sweaters, and pants? ***If it looks like she has been poured into them, then they are too tight. It is the duty of the girls, as Christian sisters, to dress modestly wherever they go. If the shirt is pulled tight against her front or back, it's too tight.***

How long may my son's hair be and still be acceptable at school? ***All hair must be kept neat and clean. If a young man's hair is long, it should not be hanging down in his face, or be a distraction. Hair must be a natural color.***

What kind of jewelry is appropriate for my daughter? ***Small earrings on the lobe are fine.***

My child says that dark no-show or low-cut socks are ok. Is that true? ***Yes, it is. As long as the socks are plain and the same color.***

My son likes to wear orange t-shirts under his uniform shirt. Is that OK? *T-shirts and camisoles must be white and hidden.*

My child likes to wear “croc” type shoes or rainboots to school. Are these acceptable? *No, they aren't, but students may wear rainboots to school and then change into appropriate shoes for class when raining.*

My student runs cold. Can she wear a thermal layer under her long-sleeved blouse or polo style shirt? *Certainly, as long as it is the same color as her blouse and is not visible.*

Does my son need to be cleanly shaved every day? *Yes, he does.*

My daughter has polo style shirts that have ruffles on the collar and other ones that have buttons on the sleeve. Are these acceptable? *No, they aren't. Shirts should be free from all “decorative” things. Collars, sleeves, buttons, etc. should be simple.*