

## **Dress Code/Standardized Attire: Grades 1st through 8th**

Shrewsbury Christian Academy believes that there is a close relationship between positive scholarship, neatness, and appropriate dress. The purpose of the dress code is to be obedient to the principles of God's Word and to provide the best possible atmosphere for learning. God's Word says that our dress should be modest and that our attention should be more on improving the inner person more than the outer person. It is the academy's conviction that parents are responsible for the modest dress standards characterizing a Christian young person. Students should also recognize their responsibility and respect for the school, by attending school in appropriate attire. Traditional styles of clothing are expected.

Shrewsbury Christian Academy has chosen to require standardized attire for its students. This attire is beneficial for the students, their families, and the school for the following reasons:

- The students are thus encouraged to express their individuality through personal and academic achievements, rather than focusing on a fashionable appearance.
- This attire can be less expensive for families, and can lessen the frustration of the morning routine.
- Standardized attire fosters a student's sense of belonging, unity and pride in his or her school, which can assist in building school and team spirit.
- It ensures that all students are safely and modestly dressed for school activities.
- It eliminates the pressure to wear more elite clothing.
- Clearly identifies Shrewsbury Christian Academy students from visitors that enter the school, and distinguishes them from other students on field trips.
- It suggests an orderly, distinctive, and unified image of the school.

Much thought and planning has gone into the design of the attire. The attire has been chosen with the following in mind:

- Items should be reasonably priced, so as not to exclude anyone.
- Items should be neat looking, and easy to take care of.
- Items should be able to be passed down, with upper grades having some of the same items as lower grades.
- Items should be readily available, at all times of the year.
- Items should be modest and honoring to the God we serve.
- Items should be a "classic" look, so as not to appear dated nor of the latest fad.
- Items should not detract from the educational experience, but should enhance it.

### **Pants**

- Navy blue or khaki dress slacks, with inside pockets as opposed to pockets sewn on the outside. No "patch" pockets.
- Cotton or cotton-polyester twill fabric. No Denim or corduroy.
- Plain or pleated front, "Docker style" or uniform pants. Slacks should be hemmed, may have cuffs.
- Pants shall be proportioned to fit at the waistline (no hip-huggers).
- If the pants have belt loops, a plain brown, black, or navy belt must be worn.
- Slacks are permissible for all students.
- NO cargo, Capri, athletic pants, excessively baggy, or fashion/fad pants.

- Must be clean, not faded, free of tears, patched, or frayed edges, and properly sized.

### **Skirts/Jumpers/Dresses**

- Skirts shall be properly fitted (worn on the waist), and must be no higher than mid-thigh and below fingertip length.
- Any slits in skirts must also be no higher than mid-thigh.
- Girls may wear skirts or jumpers of navy or khaki colored twill fabric (length the same as skirts).
- Long or short sleeve polo dresses in solid navy or light blue may be worn (length the same as skirts).

### **Shorts/Skortts**

- Navy or khaki shorts that follow the same guidelines as the slacks.
- No cargo pockets, or “patch” pockets.
- Shorts and skortts shall be properly fitted (worn on the waist), and must have a 5” inseam.

### **Shirts**

- All students may wear white, navy or light blue collared polo, button-down oxfords, or turtleneck shirts.
- Shirts and turtlenecks may not have any visible brand names or logos (except school approved SCA logos).
- All tailed shirts must be tucked in.
- Shirts should have sleeves and be properly fitted.
- Tipped sleeves and collar in contrasting color are allowed as long as they are school attire colors.
- Shirts are to be buttoned except the top.
- Non-school attire should not be visible. (As in layering of shirts.)

### **Shirts / Blouses**

- All students may wear white, navy or light blue collared polo, button-down oxfords, or turtleneck shirts.
- Shirts and turtlenecks may not have any visible brand names or logos (except school approved SCA logos).
- Girls may wear a button-front blouse with “Peter Pan” collar.
- Shirts and blouses must not have a see-through fabric.
- All tailed shirts must be tucked in.
- Shirts and blouses should have sleeves and be properly fitted.
- Tipped sleeves and collar in contrasting color are allowed as long as they are school attire colors.
- Shirts are to be buttoned except the top.
- Non-school attire should not be visible. (As in layering of shirts.)

### **Sweaters, Fleece, and Sweatshirts**

- Solid white, navy, gray, or light blue with collar of shirt/blouse visible at all times.

- Cardigan, V-neck, or crew neck is fine.
- White, navy and light blue vests in the same solid colors are also acceptable.
- No visible brand names or logos (except school approved SCA logos).
- Sleeves should not be longer than the fingertips.

### **Socks**

- Solid color in white or navy must be of a height to be visible.
- Crew or knee-highs are acceptable.
- Girls may also wear white or navy tights.
- Navy or white leggings may be worn with socks in colder weather under skirts.

### **Shoes**

- Black, brown, or navy soft-soled dress shoes are acceptable.
- Sneakers that are primarily white, grey/silver, navy, brown or black are acceptable.
- For safety, as well as neatness, laces should be tied or fastened.
- Clogs, flip-flops, platform shoes, open-toed shoes, boots, beach shoes and sandals are not allowed.

### **Outerwear**

- Hats may be worn outside the school buildings only, and should be stored in lockers/backpacks.
- Hoods may not be worn in the buildings.
- All other jackets should be stored in the locker or on the hook assigned.

### **Girls' Hair/Accessories-** Conservatively styled and well groomed

- Any hair accessories must be of school colors.
- Must be kept neat, clean, and out of the eyes.
- No extreme hairstyles are permitted.
- Natural hair color, with the exception on "Spirit Days."

### **Boys' Hair/Accessories-** Conservatively styled and well groomed

- Must be kept neat, clean, out of the eyes, and mid ear length.
- Natural hair color only and off of the collar at all times.
- Boys that are old enough must be clean shaven.
- If a tie is worn, it should be worn with an oxford shirt, and should be a solid navy blue.

### **Jewelry-** should be conservative, not excessive

- Boys are not permitted to wear earrings.
- Inappropriate pins or badges, not consistent with Shrewsbury's philosophy, are not permitted.
- Jewelry shall be subject to the discretion of the faculty/administration.
- No chains allowed, including wallet chains.
- No body piercing.

## Neatness

- Standardized attire that is frayed, torn, or unclean should not be worn.
- All children should be well groomed and practice good personal hygiene habits.
- School attire is not to be worn in combination with PE uniform (i.e., no t-shirt worn with school shorts).

## Miscellaneous

- Inappropriate logos, writings, and/or pictures are not permitted on hats, shorts, and T-shirts.
- No clothing with offensive messages or pictures, questionable attitudes, lifestyles, activities, or entertainment may be worn.
- Makeup is not permitted in the elementary grades.

The Head of School reserves the right to prohibit or permit clothing of any style or fad as the need arises.

## PE Uniform

**1<sup>st</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Students are *permitted*, but not mandated, to wear PE clothes to school on gym day.

- Solid Navy color, non stripe sweatpants or minimum fingertip length (5" inseam) athletic gym shorts (purchased at the place of your choice)
- A solid gray color PE SCA logo TEE
- White socks with sneakers: no street shoes are permitted.
- Girls are not to wear dresses.
- Students may wear their P.E. uniforms to school in place of their school uniform on their P.E. day *only*, otherwise, they must wear school attire.
- Sweatpants, wind pants, and shorts must have elastic waist band with optional drawstring
- Any visible logo must be the school-approved SCA logo
- On cooler days, a gray or navy crewneck sweatshirt may be worn over the school TEEs
- Note: School attire is not to be worn in combination with PE uniform

**6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> Grade:** Students are *required* to wear PE attire to school on gym day.

- Solid Navy color, non stripe sweatpants, wind pants, or minimum fingertip length (5" inseam) athletic gym shorts (purchased at the place of your choice)
- A solid gray color PE SCA logo TEE
- White socks with sneakers: no street shoes are permitted.
- Students must wear their P.E. uniforms to school in place of their school uniform on their PE day *only*.
- Sweatpants, wind pants, and shorts must have elastic waist band with optional drawstring
- Any visible logo must be the school-approved SCA logo
- On cooler days, a gray or navy crewneck sweatshirt may be worn over the school TEEs
- Note: School attire is not to be worn in combination with PE uniform

### **Out of Uniform Days**

- Students are expected to wear neat, clean clothing.
- Dresses, skirts, “properly fitted” shorts, slacks or jeans are considered acceptable school attire for girls.
- Boys also may wear “properly fitted” shorts, slacks or jeans (no holes or fringes).
- Students are not allowed to wear bare midriffs, halter-tops, spaghetti-strap tops, sheer blouses or mini-skirts. No shirts with offensive decals/messages are to be worn to school (offensive decals/messages will be determined at the discretion of the Teachers and will include decals of rock stars, violent or crude portrayals, etc.).
- Attire is acceptable at the discretion of the teacher. A parent may be called if clothing is not acceptable.

***Please note that the Head of School reserves the right to make modifications to the dress code. The plan is to go towards all polo shirts having the embroidered logo eventually. Please plan accordingly when you purchase for upcoming years.***