

2025-2026 UNIFORM AND APPEARANCE POLICY

As a Christian school, our high academic and behavioral standards should be reflected in the appearance of our facilities, faculty, staff, students, and families.

Campus Dress Code: Gateway has a *campus dress code* which is applicable to our students, staff, and all campus visitors: guests, parents, student siblings, staff families, etc.

The following guidelines for campus attire are required at all times whether during school hours, aftercare, or at a Gateway-sponsored function. The school staff reserves the right to issue a warning or to ask a visitor to leave the campus if their attire does not meet Gateway's campus dress code for Christian standards.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

One's attitude should reflect cheerful submission to the community of Gateway Christian Academy and its staff.

- Dress neatly: Shoes tied, no holes/tears in clothes, clothing appropriately sized for the wearer.
- Be clean: Recently washed and neat clothing. Clean, well-groomed hair. Neatly shaven.
- Be modest: No tops or pants of clingy fabric.

No short shorts, short skirts or hip-hugger pants or shorts.

Dress in a manner which reflects your love for the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

• Be sensible. No offensive logos/phrases/pictures, etc. Do not dress in a matter which draws attention to oneself. There should be no priority on self-expression.

HAIRSTYLES

- Hair must be kept neat and clean and styled in a conservative style.
- Boys' hair should be no longer than the top of their collar with no ponytails or dreadlocks/braids and should not be hanging below the top of the eyebrows.
- No hairstyles or artificial hairpieces that are distracting such as Mohawks, shaved heads, or unnatural hair colors are allowed.

TATTOOS/PIERCINGS

• No tattoos and body piercing (other than the ears for girls) are allowed for Gateway students.

UNACCEPTABLE CLOTHING

• Clothing, hair accessories, or jewelry depicting rock groups, casinos, alcoholic beverages, peace symbols or any other questionable material.

DRESS CODE VIOLATIONS

Teachers will refer students with habitual uniform policy/dress code violations to the Head of School. Students not complying with this uniform policy/dress code will be required to rectify their appearance as quickly as possible. Cheerful, consistent compliance is expected; grumbling and challenging attitudes will be subject to disciplinary action.

DESIGNATED OUT-OF-UNIFORM DAYS

The Head of School will determine clothing options for special events and field trips. On occasion there will be designated out of uniform days. For example, blue jeans and an acceptable t-shirt. However, the principles of dress outlined above still apply.

School uniforms are to be of "uniform" twill fabric. These are available local stores: Kohl's, Old Navy, or Wal-Mart

SHIRTS:

- Colors: Maroon, Navy Blue, Gray, Gold, White Phasing out: hunter green
- Styles: Polo or Oxford (long or short sleeves),
 Peter Pan collar
 Official school T-shirts
- Grades 2nd and above, tucked in
- Official Gateway t-shirts only. *These may be worn for PE*.

PANTS: School uniform twill

- Colors: Khaki or Navy Blue
- Plain, NO cargos, capris, joggers, athletic pants or leggings (worn as pants)
- **Jeans:** worn for PE, specific occasion, or as an "out-of-uniform" reward.

SKIRTS/SKORTS/JUMPERS/DRESSES

School uniform twill

- Colors: Khaki, Navy Blue
- Style: A-line, kick or box pleats, skort, jumper
- ALL Grades must wear long shorts or leggings under ALL of these.
- No shorter than 3" above the knee

SHORTS School uniform twill

- Colors: Khaki or Navy Blue
- Plain, no cargos
- No shorter than 3" above the knee

UNDERSHIRTS *Plain* – *no designs*

- Colors: White, Black, Navy, Gray
- Style: long or short sleeves
- Worn under approved shirts

BELTS REQUIRED for 2nd grade and above

- Colors: Khaki, Black Brown or Navy Blue
- Style: Plain, no designs

SOCKS *REQUIRED* for all grades

- Colors: Khaki, White, Navy Blue or Black
- No: "no-shows"
- Matching socks

TIGHTS/LEGGINGS Plain, No Designs

- Colors: White, Navy Blue, Gray, or Black
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SHOES *No lace-up if students cannot tie own shoes*

- Any Color
- Style: athletic, lace-up*, slip on, or loafer
- NO cartoon or toy figures, rollers, or lights
- NO open toe shoes, boots, sandals, heels, or cleats
- K3-K5: NO LACE-UP

WINTER WEAR: Worn in class, NO Hoodies

- Colors: Maroon, Navy Blue, White, Gray
- Styles: Sweaters, sweatshirts, lightweight fleece jackets (no hoodies)
- Plain or with approved GATEWAY logo
- Cannot be worn tied around waist
- No hoods, caps, hats or gloves worn indoors

WINTER WEAR: Worn outdoors only

- Any Color Jackets, Coats, Hats, Caps, or Gloves
- Styles: **NO** trench coats

HAIR ACCESSORIES:

- Colors: Maroon, Navy Blue, Khaki, White
- Styles: *Bows, ribbons, barrettes, headbands*
- NO distracting features, such as cat ears or unicorns

JEWELRY:

- Grades 5th 8th students
- Styles: small and plain, Gold or Silver
- Girls: one bracelet, one simple, short necklace, pierced earrings*
- Boys: simple, small, short neck chain
- All ages: faith-based "rubber" bracelets

BACKPACKS

- No logos
- Clear or mesh is preferred

Monograms are **OPTIONAL**.

Only the established or approved school logos should be used for monograms.

^{*}Earrings: to be worn by girls only