

McIntosh County School System

Dress Code

The McIntosh County School System shall enforce a county-wide Kindergarten - 12th grade school uniform policy. All schools will abide by the uniform dress code. The purpose of this policy is to provide additional opportunities for increased school safety, to minimize disruption, to easily identify trespassers on campuses, and to promote improvement in the student behavior. Specific guidelines regarding the dress code are found below:

K-12 Dress Code Procedures

The following clothing styles and colors are considered appropriate:

1. Solid khaki or black pants, skirts, jumpers with approved tops, uniform dresses with sleeves, skorts, and shorts are allowed. Shorts, skirts, jumpers, dresses and skorts must not be more than three inches above the top of the knee cap and be worn at the natural waistline. Uniforms must be made of only cotton or twill and have a sewn hem. “Skinny” pants, jogging/sweat pants, leggings, and jeggings are not appropriate. Pants must be worn at the natural waistline.
2. Solid red, black, or white shirts in the following styles are allowed for all schools:
 - polo style shirts
 - buttoned down dress shirts/blouses
 - spirit t-shirts/sweat shirts
3. Uniform shirts may have a school insignia, but no other ornamentation is allowed on any clothing.

Dress Down (Non-Uniform) Days

School administrators may reserve two non-uniform days each month. There may also be “district-wide” non-uniform days scheduled for special events. “Dress Down Days” should not be held during the first month of a school year (with the exception of school picture day). School administrators will also have the authority to allow groups to modify their dress on given days to allow for special programs and/or situations. This could include cheerleaders, sports teams, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, etc.

All teachers will enforce the above items on a daily basis each day and period. Should a student not be in compliance with the dress code, he/she will be required to comply before returning to class. All students must comply with the above dress code for the entire school day. Violation of the dress code will result in a Level I or Level II Discipline depending upon the severity and frequency of the offense.

Accessories

The following list provides guidelines for both Uniform days and Dress Down days:

- Shoes must be a matched pair and must be enclosed at the front and fastened/tied properly. Shoes with wheels, bedroom shoes, slippers, flip flops, and sandals are not allowed.
- Solid color sweaters, hoodies, or sweatshirts with and/or without an extracurricular school insignia may be worn over uniform shirts.
- Coats and jackets may be worn over uniforms.
- Solid red, black, white, or gray T-shirts or turtlenecks may be worn under uniform shirts.

- No manner of clothing, jewelry, button, or pin may display drugs, cigarettes, sexually suggestive items, alcohol, profanity, gang related logos or messages, or pictures or words that are determined to be distracting or demeaning to others by the school's administrators.
- Hats, caps, sweatbands, sunglasses, and other head coverings inside the building are not permitted. These items are only allowed outside the building and must not obscure the person's identity.
- Bandannas are not allowed on school property.
- Pierced earrings are permissible when worn in the ear as designed. Other body piercings are not permitted to be visible at school. Students may not wear nose rings, nose pins, tongue rings, tongue pins, or any jewelry to accessorize facial or body piercings.
- Extreme hair color/hairstyles, make-up, etc., must not be inflammatory or offensive. Facial hair must be neatly trimmed. Hair color should be naturally occurring colors (blonde, brunette, red, or black).
- Chains, wallet chains, and spiked jewelry are not allowed on campus or at school related activities.
- Tights, hose, and leggings may be worn under uniforms and must be solid black, tan, white, or red. Socks must be matching in color. No graphics may be displayed on socks, leggings, hose, or tights.
- Shirts and dresses should not be low-cut, revealing, or expose midriffs. The width of shoulder straps must be at least 2 inches.
- Shorts, skirts, and jumpers must be no more than 3 inches above the knee. Splits in skirts follow the same rule.
- Clothing should be free of any deliberate holes or tears.
- Spandex or sheer garments are not permissible.

School Dress Code Closets

Each school will maintain a uniform dress closet. This closet will contain a variety of sizes of uniforms for students who are newly enrolled or are noncompliant.

Newly Enrolled Students

Students newly enrolled in the school system will be given ten (10) school days to prepare adequately for the dress code policy. Until that time, they may borrow uniforms from the Uniform Dress Closet without penalty. However, students must wear a school uniform each day.

Non-compliance Procedures

Each school will strive to achieve full compliance within the guidelines of the Uniform Dress Code Policy. Since non-compliance interferes with the smooth operation of the school, the plan listed below has been developed to address students who do not comply with the required dress code procedures. If a student is not in compliance with the dress code, the student will be referred for consequences AND either assigned ISS or allowed to correct the problem.

1st Offense – Warning and letter home from administration

2nd Offense – Parent Contact and Lesser Consequence (detention, loss of privilege, etc.)

3rd and Subsequent Offenses – Office Discipline Referral (ODR)