

## Dress Code

Mount Airy Christian Academy believes that what students wear strongly influences their behavior. Therefore, having an appropriate dress code is vital to school culture. The dress code at MACA serves a three-fold purpose: to encourage modesty, to promote unity, and to cultivate a scholarly environment.

The dress code is to be upheld by students at all times. Students must dress in conformity with the biological sex that God gave them at birth.

### *STANDARD UNIFORM*

**K-12 Uniform Bottoms:** All students may wear khaki or navy uniform pants. Students may also wear khaki or navy uniform shorts that are at least midthigh in length (until October 31 and after March 31) and female students may wear khaki or navy skirts that fall to the top of the knee. A slit may not go higher than 2" above the knee. Girls in K-5 may also wear khaki or navy jumpers or skorts falling to the top of the knee. Belts must be worn at all times with looped pants or shorts and must be solid brown, black, or navy.

Lower School polos: navy, white, or light blue. They must be plain or with the MACA logo and may be short- or long-sleeved.

Middle School Polos: navy, white, or light blue. They must be plain or with the MACA logo and may be short- or long-sleeved.

High School polos: navy, white, light blue, or black. High school polo shirts must have the MACA logo on them and be short-sleeved.

K-12 outerwear: Students may wear a long-sleeved white shirt underneath their polo, a solid navy sweater over their polo, or MACA-issued outerwear over their polo as part of the school uniform.

K-12 shoes and socks: Students must wear brown, black, tan, white, gray, or navy shoes (including soles and laces). As long as all visible parts of the shoe are one of or a mix of these set colors, the shoe is approved. Shoes must have a closed toe and closed heel, and heels must be no higher than one and one-half inches. Moccasins, slippers, Ugg-style boots, Crocs, and shoes with wheels are not approved school uniforms. Socks must be solid white, khaki, navy, gray, or black. Solid white or navy tights may be worn under a skirt.

For clarification, please know that MACA does not seek to make uniform pants difficult to find or uncomfortable for the student. Modesty is the guiding principle. Pants that are too tight or too low-cut should not be worn. For example, jeggings-style or leggings-style pants, even though they are khaki or navy in color, are not considered traditional uniform pants and are not acceptable for school uniforms. Links to suggested uniform pants will be posted on the school website.

Accessories such as jewelry (boys and girls) and makeup (girls only) are permitted; however, they may not be a distraction. A student may not have any visible tattoos. The only visible piercings allowed are in the ear and are only approved for girls. The administration reserves the right to ask the student to remove accessories and makeup should it be extreme and a distraction.

Students should have natural hair colors and styles. As determined by administration, extreme haircuts (such as a mohawk or full/partial head shaving), or unnatural colors are not acceptable. Boys' hair must be trimmed above the ear and shirt collar and may not hang down over the eyebrows; facial hair is not permitted for students. All students' hair must be to school code for the first day of school; athletes' hair must be to code for the first day of practice for fall sports.

#### *SPECIAL EVENT UNIFORM*

The special event uniform is for all students K-12 and may be requested of students at special school events throughout the year such as awards assemblies, class pictures, field trips, etc.

Other special events such as Fine Arts presentations may require specific dress. This will be addressed by the instructor.

For special events, students may be requested to wear khaki pants or shorts (depending upon the time of year) with a navy polo shirt. They may wear a solid navy sweater, MACA ¼ zip, or MACA team or club jacket. Standard uniform rules are to be followed for socks, belts, and accessories.

#### *PHYSICAL EDUCATION UNIFORM*

Any student taking Health and Wellness (Physical Education) classes will be required to dress in the MACA PE uniform.

##### **Lower School**

- Students will wear their PE uniform to school on the day they have class.

- The Lower School PE uniform must be purchased from our uniform supplier and consists of a MACA gray PE T-shirt/long sleeve T-shirt, MACA navy blue PE shorts/sweatpants, and a MACA sweatshirt. Students must also wear tennis shoes and socks. Socks must be solid white, khaki, navy, gray, or black.
- Lower School students will wear MACA navy blue sweatpants; however, they may wear the PE shorts up to October 31 and after March 31.

Upper School students will change into their PE uniform prior to PE class.

- The Upper School PE uniform consists of a MACA T-shirt and dark mid-thigh length gym shorts.
- Upper School students may choose to wear solid navy sweatpants or athletic pants.

#### *DRESS DOWN DAYS*

The first Friday of every month is a dress down day for all students. High school students will also receive a dress down day on the third Friday of each month.

These days are a privilege and should be treated as such. Acceptable clothing for dress down days includes:

- jeans, athletic pants, solid-color sweatpants (no flannel or multi-colored), capris and khakis in good condition (no rips or holes)
- appropriate shirts (no tank tops)
- shorts that are mid-thigh in length (acceptable through October 31 and after March 31)
- closed-toe, casual shoes (Please remember normal school activities will take place, such as recess, PE, etc.)
- sweatshirts and sweaters
- no inappropriate (as determined by administration), political, or divisive slogans or pictures on clothing

If a student is out of dress code, parents may be called to bring a change of clothes, and a dress code violation will be issued. Students who repeatedly violate this code may lose their dress down privilege and be referred for further disciplinary action.

#### *SOCIAL EVENTS*

MACA regularly schedules social events for the Upper School students to provide quality, chaperoned fellowship. Social events will be publicized in advance. Staff and interested parents will chaperone these events. All events will comply with the policies and beliefs of MACA and MABC.

It is MACA's desire to have a standard of modesty at all times, including events. In order to help with that standard, dress code guidelines have been established for these events.

#### **Boys**

1. Nice dress pants, dress shirt, tie, belt, socks, and dress shoes are required.
2. Suit coats may be required; matching colors preferred.
3. Shirts must be tucked in at all times.
4. Regular guidelines apply for hair and jewelry.

#### **Girls**

1. Prior to the special event, guidelines will be emailed to the girls and their parents.
2. Dresses for Homecoming and the Gala and other special events must be pre-approved by the dress committee. Dates for the approval process will be communicated.
3. Modesty will be the determining factor regarding dress approval. No cleavage can show while sitting or standing. If the neckline is high enough, no straps are required; a one-strap dress or halter-style dress is permissible as long as the neckline is high enough.

4. Dresses and skirts should be no shorter than the top of the knee. Slits should not go higher than two inches above the knee.