



## Charter School of Inquiry

### DRESS CODE / SCHOOL UNIFORM POLICY

The Charter School of Inquiry has adopted a school uniform policy because uniforms help to establish a positive learning environment. Uniforms can:

- Eliminate the socioeconomic pressures and distractions of fashion-driven dress so that students can concentrate on their academic work.
- Establish a sense of belonging to the Charter School of Inquiry school community.
- Distinguish CSI students within the community.
- Make it easier for children to get ready for school.
- Are practical and more economical than fashion-driven dress.

#### School Uniforms

The Charter School of Inquiry's Head of School and/or designee will implement the school uniform and appearance policy in a manner that is age and developmentally appropriate. Good judgment in considering issues such as age, developmental stages, and body type are expected of all students, parents, and guardians in the selection of school attire and appearance. Students' uniforms shall be neat, clean, properly fitted, age-appropriate and suitable for the learning environment. The Head of School has the option of suspending the school uniform policy on certain days at her/his discretion. When deemed necessary, this Uniform Policy is subject to change.

#### GENERAL POLICY

All articles of clothing may be purchased from any retailer or vendor but *must adhere to all of the dress code standards listed below*. Children whose attire does not meet the dress code standards will be considered in violation of the uniform policy.

#### DRESS CODE STANDARDS

##### A. Shirts

1. Shirts may be navy blue, light blue, dark green, and may include the CSI school logo, although it is not required. Shirts may be purchased from FrenchToast.com, or from any retailer, as long as the shirts meet the specifications below.
2. Official uniform shirts may be long or short-sleeved and must include a collar.
3. No insignias, logos (except for the CSI logo), labels, words, or pictures may be affixed to school uniform shirts.



4. Shirts must be appropriately sized and tucked in at all times. They should cover the midriff when sitting or standing and must cover the chest and back so the chest and the back of the body are not inappropriately exposed.
5. Undergarments may not be visible at any time. Students may wear T-shirts or camisoles which are plain white, black, navy, or one of the additional designated school colors under collared shirts.
6. Clothing shall be worn appropriately (correctly sized; not inside-out or backwards; no rolled up pants legs, etc.).
7. If undershirts are worn, they must be white and have shorter sleeves than the shirt or top (no long-sleeved colored shirts hanging out of short-sleeved school shirts).

### **B. Pants, Skorts, Jumpers, Capri Length Pants, Shorts**

1. Pants, skorts, jumpers, capri length pants, and shorts are acceptable. They must be navy blue, khaki, dark green or black.
2. No denim of any color is allowed.
3. All clothing must be free of graphics and embroidery. No insignias, logos, words, or pictures are permitted.
4. Skorts, shorts and jumpers shall be modest and of sufficient length. The length of these articles of clothing shall be *no shorter than three inches above the top of the knee* when standing.
5. No pants with pockets halfway down the legs are allowed.
6. Clothing must be appropriately sized. No baggy or sagging pants or skorts are allowed. No “low rise” clothing is allowed. Pants must be worn with the waistband at or above the hipbone.
7. Clothing shall be worn appropriately (not inside-out or backwards; no rolled up pants legs, etc.).
8. No see-through or mesh clothing that will reveal the body or will reveal undergarments are allowed.
9. Belts must be worn if belt loops are present, except for Kindergarten. If belts are worn, they must be solid black or brown with a plain belt buckle that is not oversized. All belts must be buckled.

### **C. Shoes**

1. All children must wear plain black or white sneakers with laces or Velco straps. No other colors or designs are permitted.
2. No sandals, flip-flops or slippers are permitted. No roller shoes or shoes with flashing lights are permitted.
3. Shoes that have laces shall be laced and tied at all times for safety purposes.
4. During rainy or snowy weather, students may wear boots to school but must immediately change into sneakers before they enter their classrooms. Boots should be removed and stored with other belongings in the cubbies assigned to each student outside the classroom.



#### **D. Socks**

1. Socks are required. They must be solid colors in black, white, dark green or navy and worn with shoes.
2. Female students may wear solid color blue, white or black tights. Jeggings are not permitted.
3. Socks or tights in other colors, or with stripes, patterns or designs, are not permitted.

#### **F. Outerwear**

1. Students may wear plain unhooded sweaters, sweat shirts, or vests including those made out of lightweight fleece material over school uniforms. The items may be solid black, navy, or dark green. Down vests and denim vests or jackets are not acceptable.
2. Sweaters and sweat shirts in the school approved colors, may not have insignias, logos, labels, words, or pictures except for the school-approved logo.
3. Coats may not be worn inside the school building during the school day. There are hooks (or lockers for older children) where all coats must be kept during the school day.

#### **G. Other Clothing Items or Accessories.**

1. **Jewelry.** Students may not wear large pendants or medallions. Girls may wear earrings, preferably studs, but in no case shall earrings be larger than a nickel. Students should leave sentimental and/or valuable jewelry at home, as these can be easily lost or damaged. Any jewelry that is distracting to students or gets in the way of learning is not allowed. The Charter School of Inquiry is not responsible for lost or stolen jewelry. CSI has the right to temporarily confiscate jewelry that does not meet the uniform code. Confiscated jewelry will be returned to parents/guardians.
2. **Hats.** No hats, hooded sweatshirts, bandanas, sweatbands, or scarves that cover the head are permitted. Cultural or religious headwear is acceptable if discussed with and approved by the Head of School.
3. **Nails, make-up, lip gloss and glitter** of any kind are not permitted.
4. **Purses, umbrellas, scarves, coats and book bags** will be stored during the day with the child's other belongings.
5. **Book bags.** Large backpacks on rollers are not necessary and not recommended; they are difficult for many children to handle, too large for storing and difficult to carry upstairs. Soft sturdy backpacks are encouraged.



## **INCENTIVES / CONSEQUENCES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE WITH UNIFORM DRESS CODE**

**NOTE; Parents/guardians have the responsibility to ensure that their children arrive at school wearing the proper clean school uniform. We strong encourage parents/guardians to dress their children appropriately so that their children are not unduly singled out or embarrassed when school personnel have to enforce the code.**

The dress code will be enforced by classroom teachers, other staff members, and CSI administrators who will make final decisions regarding uniform issues. Cheerful, consistent compliance with the uniform policy by all is expected.

### **Consequences for Non-Compliance**

CSI and its staff recognize that there may be times when students are not in compliance with the uniform policy. The following is a guide for non-compliance:

If a child is not compliant with the dress code, the following actions will be taken:

1. First offense – A letter reminding parents to follow the dress code will be sent home
2. Second offense – The Head of School or designee will call the parent at home.
3. Third offense – The Head of School will schedule a meeting with the parent or guardian to discuss compliance issues.