



Attire and Personal Appearance

Southampton Academy is a professional learning community, as demonstrated by the mission and values, credentials of the teachers and staff, admission process and graduation requirements, and behaviors and appearance of the community. Between the hours of 8:30 a.m. and 3:10 p.m., faculty and students are expected to reflect this professionalism in the hallways, classrooms, and instructional areas. A dress code exists to sustain the community and engender respect and deference to the work and responsibilities of the students and educators. While the culture may inspire a joyful community, play and/or entertainment are only integrated into instruction as effective learning tools and/or to engender school spirit.

While the following code is effective immediately for the 2021-2022 academic year, the school has launched an exploratory committee, to include student, parent, faculty, and Board representation for the institution of a school uniform in grades K-12, beginning in the 2022-2023 academic year.

The following guidelines apply to all weekdays that school is in session, Monday through Friday.

General Standards for Middle and Upper School Students

1. Grooming

- All students must have a natural hair color (i.e. blonde, brunette, auburn, or black).
- All students must have tidy, combed, and styled hair that is pulled back and out-of-the-eyes.
- Unkempt hair is both a health and safety issue.
- Regarding boys, longer hair must be styled, bunned, tied back, or braided in a conservative and tidy manner and should not exceed collar length. Facial hair is not permitted, and boys should be clean-shaven.
- Regarding adolescents, deodorant and personal hygiene items should be used daily. Perfumes, body sprays, and colognes are discouraged and should only be used sparingly, due to allergies and insects (outdoor activities).

2. General Attire

- Regarding fit, the school recognizes that waist, thigh, and calf fit may vary dependent upon body type, especially true in girls' clothing. "Tightness" is a relative term.
- Regarding style, no athletic wear and "ath-leisure." This includes but is not limited to athletic shorts, athletic jerseys (exception of game-day jerseys or spirit-wear on designated occasions), compression pants/shorts (without coverage), and yoga pants.
- Regarding screen printing, logos larger than a "Polo" chest emblem or 2" Nike Swoosh are not permitted. Screen printed messages and large logos are a distraction. Alcohol or tobacco ads and crude or overtly polarizing messages are prohibited.
- Excepting spirit week opportunities, beach apparel is not permitted.
- Camouflage print is permitted; however, hunting gear must be changed prior to the start of the school day. Combat fatigues are not permitted. Class tardies are not excused due to a need to change from hunting gear.



- Jeans must not be ripped, distressed, or damaged. Patterned and printed jeans and pants are permitted; however, for unusual styles or materials, not typically worn, the student is encouraged to verify in advance that the article is within code.
- If carrying a Southampton Academy logo or college logo or solid color, hoodies and sweatshirts are permitted. Hoodies carrying sports-team logos or other brands are not permitted. Collared shirts must be worn under the hoodie.
- Hats are permitted on campus but not during the academic day between 8:30 a.m. and 3:10 p.m. unless the teacher is conducting an extended outdoor activity where head covering may protect against the elements. Students may have them stored in lockers on backpacks but not on their head during academic hours.

3. Boys' Attire

- Boys are to wear collared shirts (tucked in), jeans or khaki or other solid color pants/shorts, a belt, and safe, sensible footwear (i.e. consider gym floor, chemistry/science lab, and outdoor activities).

4. Girls' Attire

- Girls are to wear tops, blouses and appropriate shirts. Halter-tops, tank tops, backless or strapless dresses or tops, spaghetti straps, or low necklines are inappropriate and therefore prohibited for regular school day attire. Generally, the 3-finger (or 2" width) rule will be observed regarding shoulder strap width, as measured/demonstrated by the wearer.
- Tops and pants/skirts must not reveal the waist or midriff when arms are lowered. Appropriate undergarments should be worn if the waist or midriff can be exposed.
- Skirt and dress hems may vary between 3 and 5 inches above the knee while the student is standing; however, the variation is allowed dependent upon body type and style. As an example, denim skirts hold their position on the body frame (without riding up) more consistently than other materials.

5. Assembly Attire

- Assembly attire is defined as no denim, athletic jackets, shorts, rubber flip flops, or athletic shoes.
- Girls are required to wear dresses or blouses with dressy skirts or dress slacks.
- Boys are required to wear ironed/pressed solid color blue or white Oxford style buttoned shirts. Game day assembly attire may also include a tie and/or game jersey over the shirt.
- Field trip attire is at the discretion of the chaperone/sponsor, required to reflect the standards of professionalism and reputation of the school community while appropriate to the event.

6. Enforcement

- Failure to abide by the professional standards of the community is a disciplinary offense, referable to the Dean of Students.
- Typically during homeroom; however, whenever noted during the course of the school day, the faculty or staff member will direct the student in violation of code to one of four dress code advocates.



- Four dress codes advocates—two male faculty and two female faculty—serve as the final decision on dress code. After referral, they will make the final determination of violation.
- If in violation, the student will be sequestered, the parents will be contacted to request alternative dress, and the student may return to class once appropriately attired. The tardy from class is considered unexcused.

7. Dress Down Days

- As a fund-raiser, to engender school spirit, or celebrate an event or milestone, the Head of School may designate a “dress down day” or “Blue Friday” for faculty, staff, and/or students.
- The alterations to code (i.e. T-shirts, professional sports team jerseys, athletic wear) will be defined at the time of the announcement. Dependent upon the event, logos and graphic tees may be permissible
- If students wish to petition for a specific dress down event (i.e. No-Shave November or Wear Pink Wednesday) as an event to raise awareness around a values-consistent social issue, they may submit a proposal to the Head of School for consideration.