

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE

For middle school students, the uniform must be worn at all times when in the school building on school days, including lunch and after school.

Students who come to school out of uniform must immediately change into uniform clothing, call to have a parent bring them uniform to change into, or immediately leave the campus until changed into uniform clothing.

- The only exceptions to being in uniform are authorized out of uniform activities, changing during lunch to prepare for a PE class, or when leaving campus for sports activities.
- All students are to be dressed and groomed appropriately for their biologically assigned gender.
- Notes from parents excusing out of uniform, will not always be accepted by the school as reasons for excuse.
- Designated uniform clothing may be purchased at any store as long as it meets the following school criteria. *(MCA does not sell uniforms, only spirit gear items. Stores like Target, Amazon, or Old Navy often carry approved uniform clothing.)*

Uniform Maintenance Guidelines

- All clothing should be clean, modest, and mended, with no frays, no unfinished cuts or alterations, and should avoid worldly fashion extremes.
- Plan ahead for uniform cleaning needs. This is not an acceptable excuse for incomplete uniform. It is important to have more than one set of school uniforms.

UNIFORM

MCA 'Spirit Gear' Uniform Sweatshirt *(*Required for all Kinder - 8th graders. Purchase on school website)*

- All students are required to purchase a uniform sweatshirt. These items or proof of purchase must be presented the first day of school.
- No City Christian gear will be permitted. Only MCA Spirit Gear or identifiable MCA sweatshirts may be worn during school.
- Any identifiable MCA sweatshirt is the only accepted sweatshirt at school.
- Sweatshirts should fit appropriately, be neither tight nor baggy, and should not extend below the wrist.
- The MCA uniform sweatshirt must be the outermost layer at all times indoors.

Polo Shirt

- Any SOLID color, long or short sleeve, pullover with collar and buttons. No striped or patterned polos, or full button down shirts.
- The shirt length and/or layering must be long enough to always cover the waistline, even when seated, and when the arms are raised.
- Polo shirts should fit appropriately, be neither tight nor baggy, and should not extend below the wrist, be oversized or too small.
- Long sleeve shirts under polos may either be solid color, striped, or patterned- however, there should be no writing on the shirt.
- The required shirt must be worn under all zippered school sweatshirts if unzipped.
- Midriffs should not show and necklines should not be low, during any form of movement.
- The polo shirt may be worn tucked or untucked.
- Logo designs on polos must be smaller than a quarter

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T-Shirt

- Any identifiable Mannahouse Christian Academy t-shirt may be worn as uniform instead of a polo shirt.
- No City Christian gear will be permitted. Only MCA Spirit Gear or identifiable MCA sweatshirts may be worn during school.
- T-shirts, long or short sleeve, are acceptable under short sleeve polos (no long underwear/pajama shirts).
- T-shirts, long or short sleeve, worn underneath polos may either be solid color, striped, or patterned - but should not have print, writing, logos or designs.
- The required shirt must be worn under all school zippered sweatshirts if unzipped.
- Midriiffs should not show and necklines should not be low, during any form of movement

Pants/Shorts

- Full length only. Simple, classic 5-pocket style and fit.
- Cotton/cotton blend, Dockers material or dark solid color denim (faded/styled wash or distressed denim is NOT allowed on uniform days)
- Khaki, black, dark blue or navy color only
- NO LEGGINGS WORN AS PANTS. Leggings may be worn under appropriate length skirt or dress
- Shorts must be the same material as pants and the same length as skirts (no more than 2" above the knee and 3" below).
- Athletic type shorts may not be worn as uniform. Athletic/gym shorts may ONLY be worn in PE classes or sports activities.
- **Not Allowed:** pajamas, cords, cargo pants, embellished pockets, sweatpants, leggings-as pants (without skirt), track pants, yoga pants, tech pants, jogging pants, athletic pants of any type.
- Pants must be loose enough to pinch an inch on both sides. They should be neither tight nor baggy.
- Pants cannot have tears, rips, frays, holes or scuffs, no matter if purchased that way and even if no skin is showing.

Skirts/Skorts/Shift

- Navy Blue solid or navy plaid, must be same material as pants
- Length is to be middle of the knee length or longer (no more than 2" above the knee and 3" below)

Coats

- Students may wear coats to and from school and during outdoor activities.
- If a student is still cold inside the school when wearing the MCA sweatshirt, a jacket may be worn underneath the uniform clothing for additional warmth- however, the MCA logo sweatshirt must be the outermost layer at all times.

Shoes

- Shoes should be appropriate for school activities and consider the weather.
- Sturdy shoes with a closed toe and heel for maximum dexterity and safety in school activities is recommended.
- All students in MS PE are required to have non-marking tennis shoes that are designated for HS Gym wear only. These shoes should never be worn off court.
- Shoes with wheels, cleats, or other items on the soles are not accepted.
- Shoes manufactured to require laces must have laces and be tied.

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Hair

- Hair should be discreet, avoid extremes, and follow the standards of MCA.
- Hairstyles should not distract from the countenance in any way.
- Any dyeing of the hair is to be in natural colors only. Unnatural hair colors are not accepted, whether intentional or unintentional, and need to be quickly changed.
- Hair extensions are permitted, but need to be in natural colors only.
- Consequences are at the discretion of the administrator and may include suspension.

Makeup/Fingernail Polish

- Makeup and fingernail polish should be worn discreetly and in moderation, avoiding extremes, and follow the standards of MCA.
- Boys may wear nail polish but it needs to be “clear” in color.

Jewelry

- Jewelry and hair accessories should be discreet and modest, avoiding extremes, and follow the standards of MCA.
- Jewelry with unedifying symbols are not appropriate for school wear.
- Students are not to wear body-piercing jewelry other than earrings in the ear. Clear or flesh-colored plugs or placeholders are allowed for nose piercings, but not for other body piercings.

Accessories

- Tattoos cannot be visible, whether temporary or permanent.
- Hats are not allowed on uniform days for any student. Hats are only allowed on spirit days when the hat complements the dress up theme.
- Scarves are not to be worn indoors with school uniforms, only outdoors for warmth.
- Students are not to wear anything considered an accessory without permission of the administrator.

Undergarments

- Undergarments must always be worn by all students, and girls are to wear bras.
- Undergarments are not to be visible, neither through clothing or during any form of movement.

PE Uniform

- Designated PE uniform must be worn during class, and students should have enough PE uniforms to allow for washing needs. PE uniform may be purchased in the MCA office or on the school website.
- Tennis shoes worn in the classroom may also be worn in PE classes held outdoors and in Ivy Hall, but not in the High School Gym.
- Non-marking athletic shoes - are required, and to be reserved for use in the HS Gym. These shoes should never be worn off court.
- Students must plan ahead, having the appropriate attire at all times for either indoor or outdoor activities, including both sets of tennis shoes, if outdoor shoes are needed in addition to gym shoes.
- PE shirts can be worn tucked or untucked, but they are not to cover the shorts completely.
- PE shorts should be no shorter than fingertip length when arms are at sides.
- Midriffs should not show and necklines should not be low, during any form of movement

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Game Day/Competition Days

- Team jersey shirts/sweatpants may be worn instead of uniform on game days.
- Other appropriate clothing will be determined by the athletic director and/or coach.
- Approved athletic shirt, spirit gear t-shirt or polo must be worn under all zippered athletic jackets or sweatshirts if unzipped.

Team Sport Guidelines

- Practice Uniforms: If a practice uniform is not issued, the student may wear any shorts, sweats and shirt as long as the items meet out of uniform guidelines.
- Game Uniforms: Game attire must be modest. Shorts must be loose fitting, with a spandex under-short if necessary.
- Girls wearing the tank-top style uniform must wear an undershirt also, either a t-shirt or bra top.
- Midriiffs should not show and necklines should not be low, during any form of movement

Lost Clothing

- No clothing is to be left in the school at any time, including in the bathrooms, classrooms, or locker rooms.
- A lost MCA uniform sweatshirt must be replaced as soon as possible or no later than two (2) weeks after the time it was lost.
- IT IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED THAT CLOTHES BE LABELED WITH THE STUDENT'S NAME. Polo shirts, t-shirts and sweatshirts should be labeled on the inside of the neck in back of garment. Skirts and pants should be labeled on the inside of the waistband in back.
- THE SCHOOL IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR LOST CLOTHING.

MIDDLE SCHOOL DRESS CODE

SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE: OUT-OF-UNIFORM

Throughout the year there are a number of activities, both during the school day and after school hours (including evenings), that do not require students to be in uniform. On these out of uniform occasions, students are required to adhere to a dress code during school hours, and during all school events and activities.

Students who come to school not adhering to the dress code must immediately change to acceptable attire, call to have a parent bring them clothing to change into, or immediately leave the campus until changed into appropriate clothing. Notes from parents excusing student's clothing, will not always be accepted by the school as reasons for excuse.

The standards outlined here are designed to assist you in preparation for leadership by applying Biblical standards of cleanliness, modesty, and propriety in grooming and dress. As Christians, the way we present ourselves to others affects the way they perceive Christ and may affect the impact we have with them. We are asking students not to draw undue attention to themselves either in dress or appearance.

Christians should avoid any identification with any group that is in rebellion against God or society. MCA students should strive for Biblical unity and not intentionally create controversy or unrest within the school community by wearing clothing that has offensive political statements or controversial cultural ideations.

In keeping with a standard of Christian modesty, students are asked to observe the following guidelines:

All Students

- Students should groom and dress in a clean manner appropriate to an academic and church environment.
- Students should maintain high standards of cleanliness, moderate grooming, and modest apparel.
- Plan ahead for clothing cleaning needs. This is not an acceptable excuse for not following the dress code. It is important to have more than one set of school appropriate outfits.
- Hair should not be styled in an extreme manner.
- All students are to be dressed and groomed appropriately for their biologically assigned gender. We believe that men should refrain from any feminine appearance, just as women should refrain from any masculine appearance.
- All students are expected to wear appropriate clothing to all classes and chapel services.

(cont.)

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SIXTH - EIGHTH GRADE: OUT-OF-UNIFORM

Male Students

- Inappropriately tight-fitting pants or shorts are not appropriate at any time.
- Shirts with sleeves (long or short) are required at all times while on campus. Shirts need to cover the torso with no visible skin showing.
- Sleeveless shirts/tank tops are not allowed while in classes or in hallways for passing. Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are only allowed for athletes while at sports practices/games, and should adequately cover the torso.
- Shorts should not be shorter than approximately a hand width above the top of the knee.
- Fashionably distressed jeans with rips and holes in them are allowed, as long as the skin showing through is at the same level as required for shorts, approximately a hand width above the top of the knee.
- Lycra-type spandex shorts may be worn only under regular shorts.
- No pajama pants/shirts, or onesie-type outfits except on planned school spirit day activities.
- Blankets are not to be brought to school, but may be brought on long bus trips for games/field trips
- No visible facial piercings (lips, nose, eyebrows, etc), ear gauges, or visible facial tattoos. Ear piercings are permitted, but should not be extreme.

Female Students

- Clothes may be flattering but not sensual.
- Any clothes that are inappropriately tight fitting, tops with low necklines or that allow midriff exposures are not appropriate at school or school sponsored events. This applies to both casual and formal wear.
- Shirts need to cover the torso during all forms of movement, with no visible cleavage or midriff showing, (sleeves, long or short are required).
- Sleeveless shirts/tank tops are not allowed while in classes. Sleeveless shirts and tank tops are only allowed while at sports practices, and should adequately cover the torso.
- Sleeveless shirts/tank top shoulder straps may be no smaller than 4" in width, and armholes may be no more than 2" below the armpit. Strapless tops are not allowed.
- The length of dresses/skirts should be no shorter than approximately a hand width above the top of the knee.
- The length of shorts should be no shorter than approximately a hand width above the top of the knee.
- Fashionably distressed jeans with rips and holes in them are allowed, as long as the skin showing through is at the same level as required for dresses and skirts at approximately a hand width above the top of the knee.
- Lycra-type spandex legging pants may be worn, but must be worn with tops that cover the front and backside during all forms of movement AND extend to the fingertips when arms are extended. Lycra-type spandex shorts may be worn only under regular shorts.
- No pajama pants/shirts, or onesie type outfits except on planned school spirit day activities.
- Blankets are not to be brought to school, but may be brought on long bus trips for games/field trips
- No visible facial piercing (lips, nose, eyebrows, etc), ear gauges, or visible facial tattoos. Ear piercings are permitted, but should not be extreme.