

## *Holy Cross Academy Dress Code*

Holy Cross Academy is a Catholic elementary school which maintains the right to establish a uniform dress code for its students. It is recognized that proper school attire and good grooming are conducive to a student's educational and social development. This Dress Code was developed for the following reasons:

- promote a Christian atmosphere;
- free children for academic concentration;
- de-emphasize competition among children regarding clothing;
- allow more economical dress for school, and
- provide some choice to accommodate individual differences.

This dress code policy is intended to maintain a standard of dress that is neat, economical, modest and attractive. All students in grades K-8 must follow the school dress code which is described below:

### **UNIFORM REQUIREMENTS**

#### **NON-MASS DAYS**

##### **Shirts - Polos**

- Long/short sleeved in Navy, White or Heather Gray. The Heather Gray must be embroidered with the HCA logo and purchased through Schoolbelles. No lace collars for girls.
- Solid white short sleeved undershirts permitted under uniform shirts. No visible logo.

##### **Bottoms – Pants**

- Navy or Tan pants in khaki/ twill type fabric. **Kindergartners may wear elastic waist/ no belt.**
- NO jeans, denim, jersey knit material, sweatpants, or cargo pants permitted. No outside pockets.

##### **Bottoms – Shorts**

- May be worn until Oct. 31 and after March 31.
- Navy or Tan shorts in khaki/ twill type fabric. **Kindergartners may wear elastic waist/ no belt.**
- Shorts **must be knee length or no shorter than 2 inches above the top of the knee.**
- NO jeans, denim, jersey knit material, sweatpants, or cargo pants permitted. No outside pockets.

##### **Accessories - Belts**

- Belts in Navy, Black, or Brown with a plain buckle and no embellishment.
- Belts are required with pants and shorts for Grades 1-8. **No belt is required for Kindergarten.**

##### **Accessories – Shoes**

- Dress/Loafer style shoes (tie or slip on) in Black, Brown, Navy or Tan.
- Tan or Brown Sperry and docksider shoes permitted.
- NO embellishments, animal prints, sparkles, sequins, etc.
- NO open toe, clogs, crocs, sandals or heels higher than 1 inch permitted.
- **Kindergartners may wear tennis shoes all day, every day.**

##### **Accessories-Socks**

- Solid Navy, Black, Tan, White socks only. Socks must match. One small logo permitted on a sock, but not multiple logos.
- Socks must be above the ankle.

### **Accessories-Hair-Girls**

- Solid Navy, Khaki or HCA Plaid headband. Plain or HCA Plaid hair ties/ponytail elastics. Simple, plain hair clips and barrettes. NO headbands or hair accessories that have embellishments.

### **GIRLS**

- Navy, Tan, Holy Cross Academy plaid skirts and jumpers.
- Skirts and Jumpers **must be knee length or no shorter than 2 inches above the top of the knee.**
- Bike shorts or some other shorts should be worn under skirts and jumpers (either built-in or separate).
- Tights may be worn with skirts and jumpers
- No jersey material skirts or jumpers permitted.

### **MASS DAY**

**\*\*\*During Mass, non-uniform items must be removed, which includes hooded sweatshirts and coats\*\*\* Please consider wearing the approved fleece, sweaters/ cardigans, and pullovers on cold days.**

### **BOYS**

- Plain white long/ short sleeved button-down dress or oxford shirt.  
**Kindergarten/1<sup>st</sup> graders may wear white polo shirt and no tie.**
- Pants in Navy or Tan in khaki/twill fabric.
- Undershirts must be plain white.
- Plain Navy or HCA striped tie (HCA tie available at Schoolbelles).
- Belt, socks and school shoes. No tennis shoes, except for Kindergarten.
- NO jean, denim, jersey knit material, sweatpants or cargo pants permitted. No outside pockets.
- NO shorts permitted.

### **GIRLS**

- Plain white long/ short sleeved button-down dress or oxford shirt.
- **Kindergarten/ 1<sup>st</sup> graders may wear white polo shirt and no tie.**
- Rounded collar permitted. No lace.
- Skirts and Jumpers in Navy, khaki or plaid must be worn on Mass day. Navy or Tan pants in khaki/twill type fabric are permitted for girls on Mass Days.
- Undershirts must be plain white.
- Navy cross snapped tie available at Schoolbelles must be worn.
- Socks or tights in Navy or White
- School shoes. No tennis shoes, except for Kindergarten.
- Plain Navy, Khaki or HCA Plaid headband. Plain or HCA Plaid hair ties/ponytail elastics. Plain hair clips and barrettes.

### **APPROVED FLEECE, SWEATERS, PULLOVERS** **ALLOWED ON ALL SCHOOL DAYS**

(Listed below are the ONLY approved outerwear items **for everyday wear**)

- Plain Navy, long sleeved sweaters: crew neck, V-neck, button down, or cardigan styles.
- **AVAILABLE THROUGH SCHOOLBELLES:**

- Embroidered V-neck sweater and V-neck cardigan sweater.
- Navy microfleece 1/4 zip pullover or full zip jacket. (HCA cross logo)
- Augusta "Attain" 1/4 zip wicking pullover.
- **AVAILABLE THROUGH SPIRIT STORE**
- Augusta Medalist 1/4 zip pullover and full zip jacket.

### **GYM UNIFORM**

- Gym uniform and athletic shoes permitted ALL DAY on gym days.
- Any Holy Cross Academy Logo T-shirt (Gray, Navy, or White) or plain gray T-shirt permitted.
- Navy basketball style shorts or Navy sweatpants or joggers.
- **Shorts must be knee length or not more than 2 inches from the top of the knee** and can only be worn until October 31 and after March 31.
- Students can wear sweatshirts and 1/4 Zip Pullover with the Holy Cross Academy Logo.
- **Hooded Sweatshirts of any kind are NOT permitted during the school day, EXCEPT on Gym Days, and must be HCA logo/ Spirit Wear or plain Heather Gray or Navy.**

### **SPIRIT DAYS**

Spirit Days will only be on special occasions and pep rally days as announced.

- HCA Spirit Store long/short sleeved T-shirts
- Warm up jerseys or Athletic uniform jerseys.
- HCA Spirit Store sweatshirts and 1/4 Zip Pullover.
- Athletic shoes.
- **All other uniform requirements are still in place on Spirit Days.**
  - School pants, shorts and skirts as outlined previously.
  - Belts, socks, hair accessories as outlined previously.
- Students who choose not to participate in wearing spirit clothing must wear the approved school day uniform as outlined previously. Spirit Days are not dress down days.

HCA Spirit Store sales occur throughout the year for Spirit Wear and special-order items.

Parent Alert Communication emails and/or flyers to come home to inform parents of opening and closing dates of the spirit store.

### **DRESS DOWN DAYS**

There will be days identified as Dress Down Days for purposes of fundraising, communicated through Parent Communication. Students are to follow the directions for the dress down days in the formal Parent Communication.

For any Fundraiser Dress Down Day, dress must be modest in nature.

Prohibited items on Fundraiser Dress Down Days include, but are not limited to:

- **No leggings for girls in Grades 4-8**
- Hats
- Ripped or torn jeans
- Short tops that show the bare midriff

- Deep V-neck tops
- Hooded sweatshirts
- Baggy pants that show boxers or underwear
- See-through fabric
- Tank tops
- Spaghetti-strap tops
- Clothes with slogans or symbols that, in judgement of the school, are offensive, discriminatory, or inappropriate for a school environment
- Short-shorts
- Sandals
- Clogs
- Any other attire that, in judgment of the school, is inappropriate.

It is the responsibility of parents and/or guardians to assure that their children are dressed according to the uniform code. In all cases, the administration reserves the right to evaluate and correct an individual student's interpretation of the uniform policy and to determine and curtail unacceptable articles of dress, jewelry, and hairstyle. When a student is out of conformity with the code, the parent or guardian will be called to bring the proper clothing to school. If the parent or guardian cannot bring the uniform clothing, the school will issue the proper attire to the student from a general supply of uniforms, if available.

Anything that may be determined as a distraction in class will be dealt with by the teachers and administration.

### **Dress Up Day / Picture Day**

There will be days identified as Dress Up Days. Students are to wear Dress Clothes.

Prohibited items are:

- Jeans
- Tennis shoes/Vans/Flip Flops
- Athletic Wear, leggings for girls grades 4-8
- See-through fabric, Bare midriff, low V-necks or clothes that are inappropriate and/or offensive

### **Uniform Checks**

Uniform checks will be periodically conducted to maintain and support proper dress code compliance. If the dress code is violated, a student will receive a written warning, communicated to the parents/guardians. Persistent violations will result in progressive disciplinary action, at the discretion of the School.

### **Personal Appearance**

Students must arrive at school properly groomed. Students should arrive at school dressed neat and clean. Clothing must be in good repair. Please mark all clothing with the student's name, particularly jackets, pullovers, sweaters, and coats.

### **Hair**

Hair is to be neatly combed/brushed/styled with no unnatural hair colors (i.e. bright colors including, but not limited to, green, blue, purple, pink, etc.). No extreme hairstyles. Boy's hair must not cover the eyes or touch the collar of an oxford shirt (button down collar.) Sideburns may not extend below the ear or

extend forward toward the cheek. Shaved head or hairstyle including, but not limited to designs, patterns, lines, weaves, spikes, braids, mullets, mohawks or ponytails (for boys) are NOT PERMITTED. Boys must be clean shaven. Students will be sent home to have hair properly groomed not in accordance with school uniform code.

### **Jewelry/Make-Up/Nail Polish**

#### Girls

- Piercing limited to earlobes only. Stud-style earrings or small hoop earrings are permitted.
- Make-up is permitted for girls in grades 7 and 8 only and must be modest
- Clear lip gloss for girls in grades 7 and 8 only
- One, solid color nail polish is permitted, no accent nails.
- Visible tattoos are not permitted

For safety reasons, no dangling earrings are to be worn, even on school spirit or dress down days. No other visible body piercings are allowed. **Boys may not wear earrings.** No other jewelry is allowed with the exception of watches, or a religious medal or cross worn around the neck.

#### **Hats**

Hats and scarves are not to be worn during class time or lunch time. Any scarves or hats worn in cold weather must be put away and may be worn during outside recess.

Parents are strongly urged to mark their children's personal belongings with their names. Since children do not readily claim lost items, proper identification helps us to find the owner and save parents the cost of replacement. The lost-and-found area is located in the main office. Parents and children are encouraged to look for lost clothing items there. More valuable lost items, such as glasses, watches and purses, are to be turned into the office. Items that are not claimed by the end of each school year are donated to charity or the uniform exchange program.