

UNIVERSITY LAKE SCHOOL DRESS CODE – REVISED (08.04.2009)

Statement of Philosophy

The dress code expectations at University Lake School are fair and reasonable. The code asks students to visibly express self-respect, respect for others, and respect for learning as a serious pursuit. The purpose of the dress code is to draw a clear distinction between the world of education and the world of recreation.

Through open discussion with the community and consensus for a more clearly defined standard, the trustees, administration, and faculty of University Lake School have refined the dress code for our students during the school day, from 7:55 in the morning until 3:10 in the afternoon, to underline our shared purpose to foster the feeling of belonging to a larger community.

The ultimate responsibility for meeting these expectations lies with each individual student and their parents. Each morning when a ULS student dresses before the mirror, parents and students should fully realize whether the selected dress meets these expectations. *If there is any uncertainty about a particular piece of clothing, the responsible decision is to select something different and ask a school official for clarification later that school day.*

When there are questions, the Division Head will make the judgment as to whether a student's attire is in violation of the dress code on any given day. That judgment will be final. In those cases where there is clear or continued violation of our dress standards, penalties may range from being sent home to change, to detention or suspension.

There will a number of Special Days (Preferred Dress, School Spirit and Field Days, and other variety clothes days) that will occur frequently throughout the school year. Clothes worn on these days must still conform to our standards of modesty and decency. Students may wear clothes from the Preferred Dress recommendations on any school day.

Dress Code for University Lake School Students

Tops:

Collared shirts/blouses are preferred; shirts without collars such as henleys and crew neck shirts are also acceptable.

Shirts and blouses designed to be tucked in, should be; shirts and blouses which are designed to be un-tucked must extend a few inches below the waist even with the arms raised. Bare midriffs and visible cleavage are unacceptable, in any position..

Shirts and blouses should show no more than the student's four finger hand width between the collarbone and the neckline and cover the lower back. Dresses and blouses can be sleeveless; however, the entire shoulder must be covered (i.e. no tank tops, halter tops, tops with spaghetti straps nor any other tops with plunging necklines.)

Bottoms:

Slacks, pants and blue jeans which are worn at the waist or on the hip are permitted. Skirts, dresses and jumpers must be worn with the length no more than 3" above the back crease of the knee. Shorts and skorts may be worn mid-thigh in appropriate seasons. All clothing must be neat and clean without holes, tears or fringes. (Items purchased with fringe and tears are also excluded.)

Note: Pre-primary students, grades PK, JK, and SK, are permitted to wear sweatpants.

Footwear:

Dress sandals, sneakers, casual dress shoes, semi-formal footwear, and footwear designed for harsh weather are acceptable. Beach sandals, flip-flops and slippers are not permitted.

Outerwear:

Sweaters, vests, polar fleeces, and light jackets are permitted during the school day.

Not Permitted:

- Recreational clothes including beach wear, running, biking and athletic shorts.
- Work-out clothes or other loose-fitting sports clothing such as sweatpants.
- Outerwear worn as regular clothing such as ski pants, warm-ups, sweat suits, and hats.
- Fishnet tops and other clothing that can be seen through.
- Pajamas and other forms of sleepwear.
- Underwear worn as outerwear.

Additional Points of Emphasis:

- All articles of clothing and accessories must be free of profanity, vulgar language, double entendres, insults and/or inappropriate messages or symbols. Clothing and accessories promoting cigarettes, alcohol, and/or drugs are not permitted.
- All clothing must be clean, in good repair, and fit properly with no undergarments revealed.
- Simple and appropriate jewelry such as earrings is permitted. Other types of body piercing may not be visible.
- One hair color dye may be permitted if the color of the dye is a natural human hair color.

PREFERRED DRESS

Preferred Dress Days (including most field trips): Several days throughout the school year, students will be required to wear preferred dress in order to represent our school in a positive way. Students are also encouraged to follow the preferred dress guidelines on any school day. (Please note that our music directors will provide students with the appropriate dress expectations for our school concert series.)

Lower School

- **Boys:** khaki colored slacks or shorts with collared shirt – polo, rugby or dress shirt, and/or a sweater in ULS green or white.
- **Girls:** khaki colored or school plaid skirts, jumpers, shorts, skorts or slacks with a collared blouse in ULS green or white.

Lower School Preferred Dress places an additional emphasis on our school colors, green and white, while also offering a traditional school plaid for consideration. In order to assist parents, ULS is working with Land's End for logo wear, while the school store will also offer a selection of appropriate choices. Parents may purchase similar items of their own choosing that adhere to the preferred dress guidelines above. All students must have at least one preferred dress outfit ready for school use on announced preferred dress days.

Upper School

- **Boys:** slacks or shorts with collared shirt – polo, rugby or dress shirt, and/or a sweater. Denim is unacceptable. T-shirts are not allowed.
- **Girls:** slacks or shorts, skirts, skorts, dresses or jumpers with a collared blouse. Dresses and blouses can be sleeveless; however, the entire shoulder must be covered (i.e. no tank tops, halter tops, tops with spaghetti straps nor any other tops with plunging necklines.) Denim is unacceptable. T-shirts are not allowed.

All students must have at least one preferred dress outfit ready for school use on announced preferred dress days.