



RISE CHARTER SCHOOL

Policy 3255: Student Dress

Status: ADOPTED

Original Adopted Date: June 14, 2021

Last Revised Date:

Last Reviewed Date:

The Board of Directors of RISE Charter School recognizes the individual right of students to choose their style of dress **and grooming**. The Board expects and requires students to dress appropriately for the K-12 educational environment. **Students shall be allowed to wear clothing and accessories of their choice at school and school-related activities provided they comply with this policy and any applicable procedures or activity-specific requirements.** ~~This means students are to dress in such a manner that their clothing or grooming does not jeopardize the health and/or safety of themselves or others. The school dress code shall be gender neutral during the school day as well as school activities. The District will allow students to dress in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity as long as it is not in violation of the dress code. This policy is intended to provide guidance for students, staff, and parents.~~

Student clothing, accessories, or grooming shall not create a material or substantial disruption to the educational process or create a health or safety hazard for the student, staff, or others. This dress code shall be gender neutral and shall be interpreted and applied in a nondiscriminatory manner. The School will allow students to dress in a manner that is consistent with their gender identity as long as it is not in violation of the dress code.

RISE Charter School shall respect students' First Amendment rights regarding student apparel that conveys a political, religious, or other legally protected message, provided the apparel otherwise complies with this policy.

Scope of Dress Code

This dress code applies to student apparel and grooming worn at school and at school-related activities, including:

- 1. Clothing;**
- 2. Accessories;**
- 3. Cosmetics;**

4. Jewelry, including piercings;
5. Emblems, badges, buttons, or symbols; and
6. Visible tattoos.

The principal or designee may establish reasonable and more specific dress and grooming requirements for specialized courses and activities when necessary for health, safety, or the nature of the activity. This may include, but is not limited to, physical education, athletics, shop classes, career and technical education courses, field trips, field days, school dances, and other special activities.

Students shall be informed of any additional dress or grooming requirements applicable to specialized courses or activities.

Accommodations

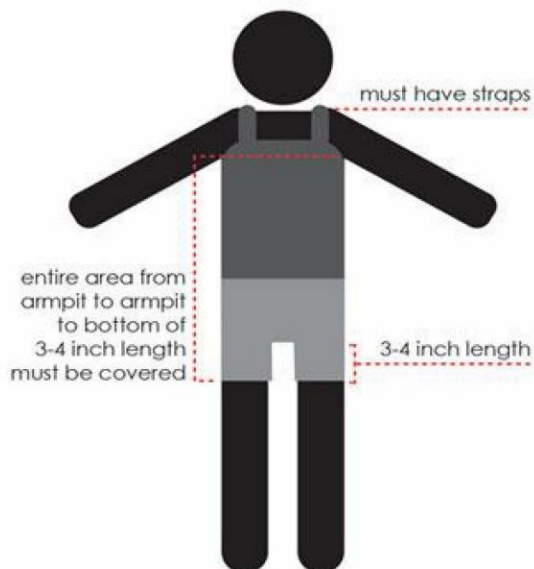
The School will seek to reasonably accommodate cultural, religious, and ethnic differences in dress and grooming, as well as dress or grooming requirements related to disability or medical need, provided the accommodation does not create a material or substantial disruption to the educational process or a health or safety hazard.

A student seeking a religious, cultural, medical, or disability-related exception to the dress code should work with the administration to determine an appropriate accommodation.

No student shall be required to modify their natural head or facial hair, including by shaving or straightening through the application of heat or chemicals, except where a specific health or safety requirement applies.

Students may dress in a manner consistent with their gender identity or gender expression, provided the clothing otherwise complies with this dress code.

Front and Back



1.—Minimum Requirements Required Clothing:

Clothing must cover areas from one armpit across to the other armpit, down to approximately 3 to 4 inches in length on the upper thighs (see images below). Tops must have shoulder straps. Rips or tears in clothing should be lower than the 3 to 4 inches in length. Undergarments must be covered.

2. Shoes must be worn at all times and should be safe for the school environment.
- 3.—See-through or mesh garments must not be worn without appropriate coverage underneath that meet the minimum requirements of the dress code.
- 4.—Headgear must allow the face to be visible to staff, and not interfere with the line of sight of any student or staff. Hoodies must allow the face and ears to be visible to school staff. Sunglasses are not to be worn indoors.
- 5.—Specialized courses may require specialized attire, such as sports uniforms or safety gear.
- 6.—Clothing and visible tattoos may not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate illegal, violent, or lewd conduct, weapons, or the use of alcohol, tobacco, marijuana or other controlled substances.
- 7.—Clothing and visible tattoos may not depict or imply pornography, nudity, or sexual acts.
- 8.—Clothing and visible tattoos may not display or imply vulgar, discriminatory, or obscene language or images.
- 9.—Clothing and visible tattoos may not state, imply, or depict hate speech/imagery targeting groups based on race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, religious affiliation, or any other protected classification.
- 10.—Clothing and accessories that endanger student or staff safety may not be worn.
- 11.—Apparel, jewelry, accessories, visible tattoos, or manner of grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark or any other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior is prohibited.
- 12.—The principal and staff at each school may establish reasonable dress and grooming regulations for times when students are engaged in extra-curricular or other special school activities.
- 13.—A student seeking a religious exception to the dress code will be handled by the administration.
- 14.—The administrators as well as teachers are charged with the responsibility of enforcing student dress codes in their classes, hallways, and within campus boundaries. If it is determined that a student's attire is disruptive of the educational atmosphere or is detrimental to the health and safety of the student or other students, or otherwise violates this policy, said student will be asked to change their clothes (if possible) at school, or will be sent home to change into suitable clothing before coming back to school. Parents or guardians will be notified each time a student is asked to leave

~~school because of inappropriate attire.~~

~~15. If a student is repeatedly sent home under this policy, the student and their parents will be required to meet with the Superintendent, or his/her designee, to discuss and resolve this matter. All time missed from classes for failure to adhere to this policy will be deemed unexcused absences. Repeated failure to follow this policy may result in further discipline.~~

1. Coverage

Clothing must cover the areas from one armpit across to the other armpit and down to approximately three to four inches in length on the upper thighs, as illustrated in the School's dress code materials.

Tops must have shoulder straps. Undergarments must be covered, with the exception of waistbands and bra or sleeveless undershirt straps.

Rips or tears in clothing must be below the three- to four-inch upper-thigh measurement described above. Clothing that is see-through or made of mesh must have appropriate coverage underneath that meets the minimum requirements of this dress code.

2. Shoes

Shoes must be worn at all times and must be safe and appropriate for the school environment.

Exceptions may be made when students are changing shoes for physical education or another school activity or when an accommodation has been approved by the administration.

3. Headgear

Students may wear hats and other head coverings provided that:

- The student's face remains visible to school staff;
- The student's ears remain visible to school staff, including when wearing a hood or hoodie;
- The head covering does not interfere with the student's line of sight; and
- The head covering does not interfere with the line of sight of other students or staff.

Reasonable exceptions may be made for religious, cultural, medical, or disability-related reasons.

Sunglasses shall not be worn indoors unless an exception has been approved for a medical or other appropriate reason.

4. Specialized Attire

Specialized courses and activities may require specialized attire, including sports uniforms, protective equipment, safety gear, or other clothing necessary for participation or safety.

Prohibited Attire

Clothing, accessories, jewelry, visible tattoos, or other apparel shall not depict, imply, advertise, or advocate:

1. Illegal acts or illegal conduct;
2. Violence;
3. Weapons;
4. Alcohol, tobacco, nicotine, marijuana, controlled substances, or other illegal drugs;
5. Drug paraphernalia;
6. Pornography, nudity, sexual acts, or sexually explicit, lewd, or indecent images or messages;
7. Vulgar, profane, obscene, threatening, or defamatory language or images;
8. Messages or imagery that denigrate, harass, threaten, or discriminate against an individual or group on the basis of race, color, national origin, ethnicity, ancestry, sex, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, disability, or other protected classification;
9. Hate speech or imagery targeting an individual or group based on a protected classification; or
10. Gang affiliation or gang-related activity, including apparel, jewelry, accessories, visible tattoos, or grooming that, by virtue of its color, arrangement, trademark, symbol, or other attribute, denotes membership in a gang that advocates illegal or disruptive behavior.

The principal or designee may identify specific items or symbols as prohibited gang attire when there is a reasonable basis to believe they are associated with gang activity at the School.

Attire, accessories, or grooming that create a safety hazard or are likely to damage school property are prohibited.

Political and Religious Expression

Student clothing and accessories may convey political, religious, or other legally protected viewpoints, provided the clothing or accessory does not otherwise violate this policy.

Nothing in this policy shall be interpreted to prohibit student expression protected by the First Amendment or other applicable law.

Interpretation and Enforcement

The principal or designee shall be responsible for interpreting and administering this dress code and for communicating the dress code and any applicable activity-specific requirements to students and families.

Teachers and other staff members are responsible for identifying and referring possible dress code violations to the principal or designee. The principal or designee shall determine whether the attire constitutes a violation.

If a conflict arises regarding the interpretation or application of this policy, the determination of the principal or designee shall be final, subject to applicable School policy and law.

The dress code shall be enforced consistently and in a manner that does not discriminate based on gender, race, body size or type, maturity, disability, religion, or other protected classification.

Staff should enforce the dress code in a manner that minimizes loss of instructional time and avoids unnecessarily embarrassing or shaming students. Whenever reasonably possible, dress code concerns should be addressed privately and discreetly.

Corrective Action and Discipline

If a student's clothing, grooming, or accessories violate this policy, the student may be given an opportunity to correct the violation at school. Corrective action may include covering, removing, or replacing the item of attire or otherwise bringing the student's clothing into compliance with this policy.

If the student is unable or unwilling to correct the violation, the student may be sent home to change into suitable clothing before returning to school.

Parents or guardians will be notified each time a student is required to leave school because of a dress code violation.

All time missed from classes because of failure to comply with this policy may be deemed unexcused absences in accordance with applicable attendance requirements.

Repeated violations may result in additional disciplinary action consistent with School policy. Such discipline may include assignment to in-school suspension or other appropriate disciplinary consequences.

If a student is repeatedly sent home or otherwise disciplined for violations of this policy, the student and their parent or guardian may be required to meet with the Superintendent/Executive Director or designee to discuss the matter and develop a plan for resolving the concern.

Nothing in this policy shall require a student to sacrifice a legally protected right or accommodation.

Responsibility for Implementation

The administration and staff are responsible for implementing this policy in a fair, consistent, and reasonable manner that supports the educational environment while respecting students' rights and dignity.

Policy History:

Adopted on: June 14, 2021

Revised on:

Reviewed on: