



"I am the gate. Whoever enters through Me will be kept safe." John 10:9

Student Dress Code Beliefs

Gateway Academy encourages students to express their originality and identity by the way they use their gifts and talents to serve the Lord and others rather than by the way they dress. As a Christian school, Gateway has established a dress code policy based on our understanding of the Biblical principles concerning propriety of dress and conduct. We desire for Gateway students to reflect "Christ likeness" in all their daily activities, including dress, and have established these guidelines toward that end. The purpose of the Dress Code is to clarify a standard of appearance which will encourage our students to bring glory to God (1 Corinthians 10:31) in an atmosphere free from distraction. The foundational principles of the Dress Code are as follows:

1. Students should dress modestly with an appropriate distinction between the boys and the girls. **(1 Timothy 2:9; Galatians 5:19)**
2. Student appearance should enhance a Christian testimony of a life adhering to Biblical principles, including appropriateness, modesty and humility, rather than worldly standards generated by anti-Biblical philosophies. **(Ephesians 4:17-19, 5:17-21; Colossians 2:8, 3:17, 23; 1 Timothy 2:9-10, 4:12; Titus 2:6-8)**
3. Appropriateness, cleanliness and neatness of appearance is related to health, general social acceptance, good habit building and the principle of deference to authority. **(Romans 13:1-2; 1 Corinthians 11:16; Ephesians 5:21)**

Team Wear Provider Information

Land's End® is the ONLY provider of Gateway Academy Team Wear. Access to Gateway's approved Miramar Beach Land's End items can be made by going online to www.landsend.com/school. Our Gateway preferred school number is 900133265 and our logo number is 0944623K. Both are required for ordering. All items shown on the above referenced web pages are approved pieces for Gateway student wear. Families can also call 1-800-469-2222 and reference our school by using the above school and logo numbers.



Although Land's End® Preferred School program is the ONLY approved vendor for purchasing team wear items, Gateway Academy remains the final authority on compliance with the Dress Code. Please direct any questions to the Principal, not the Land's End customer service department. Ask before you buy as ***the Principal is the FINAL AUTHORITY on Dress Code interpretation and compliance.***

Elementary / Middle School Dress Code Specifics

1. Basic team wear consists of a white, navy or burgundy shirt, embroidered with the Gateway Academy logo and basic khaki, navy, or denim pants, shorts, skirts or capris (for girls). Middle school approved dress code colors also include light pink and gray for girls and light blue and gray for boys. ***Only shirts and jumpers purchased through the Land's End® Preferred School***

program are acceptable. We request that Land's End pants, skirts, and shorts be selected for your students. However, families are free to purchase identical basic uniform-line pants, skirts, and shorts for their students from other stores or providers.

2. Skirts and jumpers from the Land's End selection are acceptable in khaki, navy or plaid (Land's End color Burgundy & Gray Plaid). **Jumpers should be embroidered with the Gateway Academy logo and be worn with collared shirts underneath.** Shorts, built in or worn underneath, are encouraged when wearing skirts and jumpers.
3. Clothing requirements may be waived or required by the Principal for special occasions or circumstances. **For off-campus activities or special field trips, students are required to wear a burgundy polo-style shirt, with the Gateway Academy logo, long or short sleeved (depending on weather) with khaki pants or a skirt (no shorts or capris). For these events, shirts must be tucked in and belts must be worn (if the pants or skirts are designed for a belt).** Belts must be brown or black, leather or simulated leather, with a plain buckle and no studs, spikes, emblems or other embellishments.
4. **T-shirts will be permitted on Fridays ONLY.** Monday through Thursday students are required to wear collared shirts. Gateway t-shirts are currently available as logoed t-shirt tops through our Lands End Team Wear provider or through the school office as screen-printed navy t-shirts twice a year.
5. We encourage lightweight jackets, sweaters, cardigans, and sweatshirts to be purchased through the Land's End Preferred School program embroidered with the Gateway Academy logo, but it is not mandatory that these items be. They must, however, all follow suit with our Gateway colors to be worn within our school building during school hours (navy, white, burgundy, and khaki for elementary with the additional pink, light blue and grey colors for middle school). Items including any other colors do not fit within the boundaries of our Gateway colors and are not allowed.
6. Caps, hats, hoods or other head coverings, gloves, scarves and sunglasses may not be worn inside the building. Heavy outerwear, worn only outside, is exempt from Dress Code logo compliance.
7. All pants, shorts and skirts must be worn at the waistline. Baggy pants will not be permitted. Pant hems or cuffs must be neat and slits must be hemmed. Pants or skirts that are torn, stained, badly faded, slit or rolled at the bottom may not be worn. Bottoms that include embellishments, color patterns, or stitchery designs are also not allowed.
8. Shirts may be worn tucked in or un-tucked, unless the shirt is oversized, in which case it must be tucked in. **If a shirt is worn tucked in, a belt must be worn if the pants or skirts are designed for a belt.** Shirts that are in poor condition (stretched out, holes, faded, etc.) may not be worn.
9. Shorts and skirts, while standing with hands at one's side, should fall below the fingertips but should not be shorter than mid-thigh or below the knees. Mini-skirts or short-shorts are inappropriate and will not be allowed.
10. **Shoes with backs or tennis shoes/sneakers are required.** White socks are preferred and must be worn with tennis shoes/sneakers. If sock colors are not white, they must not be extreme in color or patterning. **Tights or leggings that are solid white, navy or khaki in color (or gray for middle school girls) are approved to be worn under Team Wear skirts, dresses, or jumpers.** Sandals must have a heel strap. Flip-flops, jellies, clogs, roller shoes (heelies), high-heeled shoes, and boots of any kind are not permitted. For student's safety, tennis shoes with socks must be worn or

brought for use during P.E. classes. Students will not be allowed to participate in P.E. activities, negatively affecting their quarterly grades, if proper footwear (tennis shoes and socks) are not worn during daily P.E. classes.

11. **Middle school students are required to wear a Gateway navy t-shirt and navy or black gym shorts for P.E. classes.** Student P.E. grades will be adversely affected each time a student does not dress out in appropriate P.E. approved clothing for class.
12. Girls are not permitted to wear excessive, attention getting make-up or colored fingernail polish. Excessive jewelry is not allowed. Girls may wear excessive earring piercings and earrings must be stud-type only. Boys may not wear earrings of any kind. Piercings are not allowed on any other part of the body. Body markings or tattoos, temporary or permanent, are not permitted. Jewelry, accessories and shoes should complement and not distract from the uniform.
13. For girls, an attractive, conservative hairstyle is to be worn (spiked hair and punk styles are not acceptable, for example). Color should be in the natural range.
14. **For boys, hair should be neat in appearance and in a masculine style. Hair should not obscure the eyebrows or hang below the collar and must not cover any part of the ear.** Extremes in hairstyle that call attention to the haircut (such as shaved head, shaving above the ears, cutting designs in the hair, bleaching or dyeing) are not permitted. (1 Corinthians 11:14)
15. In the case of boys needing haircuts, they will be given three (3) days (including the day of the violation) to get a complying haircut. In the case of a legitimate misunderstanding or other extenuating circumstance, the Principal may excuse the student from any penalty, but the violation must still be corrected.

All clothing should be labeled with the student's name. Gateway Academy cannot be responsible for non-labeled, lost clothing items. Lost and Found items will be collected in the Gateway Academy office. At the end of each grading period, or earlier if necessary, all unclaimed items will be thrown away or donated to charity.

For our youngest PreK-3 and PreK-4 classes, we also require that your child has a full change of team wear clothes to be kept at school to be used in the case of accidents at school. These back-up items should be appropriate with the seasons.

Missionary Days

As part of our ministry to encourage mission-minded students, we offer an opportunity for students to wear their own clothes on a periodic basis. In exchange for a minimal gift (monetary or specific donated item) to the Gateway Academy Missionary Fund, students may wear non-dress code clothing on the designated days. Guidelines for appropriate sizing, length, and shoes must still be observed. No tank tops or dresses, shirts or dresses with spaghetti straps, halter-tops, tube tops, crop tops or midriff-showing tops will be permitted. Clothing with words, slogans or logos should reflect the Christian values set forth in the foundational principles above. The Principal will establish and communicate the dates for these Missionary Days.

High School Dress Code Specifics

1. Our high school and collegiate school students are expected to comply with all dress code requirements listed above with the exception of the Land's End® logo team wear. Although logoed items are not required, student clothing must still adhere to Gateway's color scheme of burgundy, navy, white, gray, pink and light blue as their predominate color. Clothing that contains bold patterns or coloring outside of our Gateway colors can not over power our school color scheme. White, navy, burgundy, pink, gray, and light blue must be the highlighted color of any clothing item selected for wear during school hours, inside school facilities, on school sanctioned off-campus activities, and during all NWFSC collegiate classes.
2. Boys are required to wear collared shirts every Monday through Thursday. T-shirts are permitted on Fridays only.
3. Girls are exempt from wearing collared shirts each day, but must wear tops that are equally as dressy as the collared shirts expected of our boys. Extremely casual shirts and tops are not appropriate school wear. T-shirts of any kind are only permitted on Fridays.
4. Shirts may be worn tucked in or un-tucked, unless the shirt is oversized, in which case it must be tucked in. **If a shirt is worn tucked in, a belt must be worn if the pants or skirts are designed for a belt.** Shirts that are in poor condition (stretched out, holes, faded, etc.) may not be worn.
5. Garments may not bear inappropriate slogans, pictures or advertisements of any kind. This includes t-shirts for concerts or events.
6. Clothes shall be sufficient to conceal undergarments at all times. See-through fabrics, sheer or fishnet fabrics, halter tops, spaghetti straps, plunging necklines, off the shoulder or low-cut tops and bare midriff showing items are not allowed.
7. Pants, slacks, shorts, skirts, etc. must be worn at waist level; not midriff showing. Pants made of stretch-like material, such as leggings, jeggings, yoga pants may only be worn under uniform length skirts or shorts (see PreK-8th grade code item #7). Pants that have holes of any kind or torn hems are not permitted.
8. Dresses, Skirts and shorts must approach the knee and extend past the fingertips when hands are placed to the student's side. Shirts and dresses may only have a modest slit that does not proceed higher than the tips of the fingers when hands are at the sides.
9. All clothing must be appropriately fitting and no undergarments may show. Tight fitting skirts, dresses and shirts are not permitted.
10. Accessory items such as caps, hats, hoods or other head coverings, gloves, scarves and sunglasses may not be worn inside the building. Any extreme in fashion is not appropriate and extreme embellishments of the body do not fall within the limits of Gateway's high school dress code (see PreK-8th grade code items #12, 13, & 14).
11. **High school PE clothing requirements will consist of four (4) items: navy Gateway t-shirt (available for purchase from Gateway twice a year), navy blue athletic shorts (solid color or with small white stripes only), socks (white, black, or gray only), and athletic (tennis) shoes.** Student P.E. grades will be adversely affected each time a student does not dress out in appropriate P.E. approved clothing for class.

Dress Code Violations

- Upon witnessing a dress code violation, our classroom teachers will notify the office so that leadership can discern whether parent notification can be made in written form at the end of the day or if parents need to be contacted so that their child's dress code violation can be remedied by the parent for the remainder of that school day.
- Repeated violations of the dress code will result in an office referral and the parents will be required to bring a change of clothes before the students will be re-admitted to class. Should the situation not be able to be remedied by the parents, the student will be sent home from school.
- Any future violations occurring after a student has been sent home will result in the parent being required to sign a letter acknowledging understanding of Gateway Academy's dress code requirements and of their complete understanding regarding the specific violations that need to be remedied.
- Offenses occurring after a signed parent acknowledgement will, at the principal's discretion, result in their student being suspended or expelled.

Field Trip Offenses: Because students are representatives of Gateway Academy during off-campus outings such as field trips, students not adhering to the specific dress code outlined by Gateway's Administration for that particular trip will not be allowed to participate in that day's off-campus outing. If possible, parents will be called and given the opportunity to bring the required clothing so their student can participate. However, in a situation where this is not possible or were a parent can not be reached, students will remain on campus or be sent home for the day.

Note to Parents / Parent Dress Code

- Gateway Academy encourages you to teach your children to live happily and submissively within the Dress Code guidelines. Criticism, to which any set of rules is susceptible, creates a spirit of unrest in children.
- Explain to your child the function of the Dress Code and the importance of children learning to live within limits. **Please remind your child that parents and the school are partners in this issue.**
- It is your responsibility to see that your child stays within the limits set by Gateway Academy. Students are expected to comply with the Dress Code and parents are expected to monitor that compliance before their children leave home each morning. We desire that enforcement begin and end at home.
- We are not here to be the "Dress Code Police." It is inappropriate for complying students, teachers and administrators to be distracted from the educational process due to a fellow student's failure in his or her commitment to follow the Dress Code. Do not allow your child to operate on the edge – keep hair and clothing well within the limits.
- We do not want to make a major issue over the Dress Code at Gateway Academy and we hope you do not either.

PARENT DRESS CODE: We respectfully request that parents and other guests dress modestly and appropriately when coming to the school or attending school functions. Words, slogans and logos on clothing should reflect the values of a Christian school. We encourage you to consider the foundational principals of the Dress Code when you dress for school events.