



## Dress Code

The Brooks dress code was developed to encourage attire that is neat, clean, in good repair and purposeful for various aspects of school. The dress code is meant to differentiate academic time from non-academic time, and differentiate between formal gatherings and less formal opportunities, setting a tone that is directed at learning and growing in an academic environment.

### Guide to Dressing for School:

There are several styles of acceptable dress that are expected to be followed on certain days of the week or during special programming. This is a general overview of appropriate school attire; it attempts to spell out some specific items that are acceptable and unacceptable for school, and items that are appropriate and expected for particular types of events. All casual clothing is not suitable for school, and these guidelines will help you identify what is appropriate. Clothing that works well for the beach, yard work, dances, exercise and sport contests is not appropriate for the business of school. Clothing that reveals too much skin, a wearer's back, chest, stomach or underwear, or that is skin-tight, is not appropriate during school. Torn, dirty or frayed clothing and any clothing that has words, terms or pictures that may be offensive to others is also unacceptable.

All clothing should be worn appropriately and be in good repair, such that individuals are neat and presentable. Students and adults are expected to embrace the spirit of the dress code and abide by the particulars below.

**When:** The dress code applies to the entire academic day, starting with the first class period and ending after the last class period on the school schedule. Students are expected to be in dress code while classes are in session in the academic building, at school gatherings, at lunch and in the library, even if a student has finished his or her own classes early for the day. On Wednesday and Saturday, students may be at lunch out of dress code.

### **Formal Academic Dress** (Mondays, Thursdays and Special Events)

On more formal occasions, such as chapel services and special events, the dress code is expected to reflect an added level of formality. Clothing should be neat and presentable at all times. Formal Academic Dress is expected to be worn at seated dinners.

Formal Academic Dress consists of one of the options below:

- Dress or dress blouse and skirt (non-denim); or
- Dress pants: khaki, corduroy or colored denim (not blue) pants, or dress slacks
  - Tops when wearing pants:
    - Collared button-down shirt with a tie worn snug to the neck; or
    - Collared shirt, dress blouse or turtleneck, worn with a blazer or cardigan sweater;
    - Collared shirt worn with a pullover sweater
- Required Footwear: dress shoes, sandals or boots (no sneakers or flip flops)

Notes:

- Collared button-down shirts must be worn tucked in; no more than the top button may be undone.
- Ties should be worn snug to the neck.
- Denim jackets, flannel shirts, outer coats and vests do not constitute a blazer or cardigan sweater.

- Strapless dresses or tops, or tops worn off the shoulder, are not acceptable unless worn with a sweater or blazer covering the shoulders.
- Skirts and dresses will be at least fingertip length, measured from a standing position.
- A dress blouse is a more formal top without a logo. It is not a t-shirt.
- Blue jeans, denim skirts or jackets, sweatpants, exercise pants, yoga pants, shorts, rompers, bib overalls, leggings and any spandex (spandex may only be worn as a substitute for tights) or other form-fitting pants, including those which people wear for exercise, are not acceptable for Formal Academic Dress.

### ***Academic Dress*** (Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays)

Academic Dress should be distinguishable from clothing worn on a casual weekend afternoon, to the beach, or to an athletic practice. The list below represents items that are not acceptable to wear when in academic dress. Articles of clothing not on this list are permissible.

The following items are not allowed in the academic dress code:

1. Ripped, torn or frayed clothing
2. Sweatshirts of any kind
3. Athletic wear of any kind (*team jerseys or any team gear, athletic uniforms, non-sweater material ¼ zips or fleece with team logos, and athletic shorts*)
4. Sweatpants or yoga pants
5. Sleepwear or slippers (including moccasins)
6. Hats or head coverings, unless worn for religious purposes
7. T-shirts with graphics, logos or writing, or any clothing that has words, terms or pictures that may be offensive to others
8. Bare shoulders or open-back shirts, including off-the-shoulder tops and strapless tops/dresses, unless covered with a sweater or wrap
9. Blue denim jeans
10. Leggings or spandex (may only be worn as a substitute for tights)

### ***Spirit Saturdays*** (Saturday)

Saturdays are Spirit Saturdays. Students and faculty members may dress casually provided that at least one piece of exposed clothing is Brooks School gear or colors (green or black).

### ***Special Occasion Dress***

At certain special events, the community will be expected to dress at a higher level than the typical Formal Academic Dress. At those times, students may wear:

- A blazer, collared button-down shirt, tie, khaki or wool pants and dress shoes; or
- A pantsuit with dress shoes; or
- A skirt and a collared shirt or blouse and dress shoes; or
- A formal dress and dress shoes.

### ***Graduation Dress***

During Prize Day, students in the graduating class may wear either:

- White pants, a white button-down collared shirt, a navy blue blazer, a Brooks striped tie and dress shoes.
- A formal all-white outfit, either a dress or pantsuit, with dress shoes.

**Enforcement:** Students not abiding by the dress code will be assigned Saturday detention and encouraged to change into acceptable clothing. A student who does not change runs the risk of acquiring more than one detention in a particular day.