



UNIFORM CODE 2024-25

WHY A UNIFORM?

Gillingham Charter School is a relational Charlotte Mason public school, thus Gillingham implements a simple uniform code to support the atmosphere, discipline and life of our relational school since a uniform supports the following:

- Fosters a safe, orderly environment
- Helps students to “code switch” to our rich, rigorous learning environment
- Reduces distractions in the classrooms, hallways, and shared spaces
- Prepares students for the professional workplace
- Reduces the stress of wearing the “right clothes” to fit in
- Fosters a sense of “team” and inspires school pride and identity, uniting the student body through dress just like a team

TOPS

All tops, except sweaters, must be tucked in. All tops must be appropriately fitted per discretion of GCS Faculty/ Staff.

All tops must be free of non-GCS logos.

Uniform code shirts w/ GCS embroidery can be purchased from our school store, GCS Wolfpack Rack. Directions are at the bottom.

- **Plain Polo Shirt** (*no logos, patterns/prints except for GCS embroidered patch; black, gray, or white; short or long sleeve; *a black top cannot be worn with black bottoms*)
- **White or Gray Oxford** (*button down collar, short & long sleeve*)
- **White Peter Pan Collar K-6th** (*short & long sleeve*)
- **Plain Gray or Black Sweater/Sweater Vest/Fleece or the Gillingham Crew Neck Sweatshirt** (*no logos, no hoodies, no sweatshirts unless Gillingham crew neck, properly fitted*)
- **White, Black or Gray Undershirts** (*short and long sleeve, only white*) These are worn under the sweater, too.
- **Black Blazer** (*worn with tan khaki shorts, skirt, jumper or pants and white oxford, white peter pan, or white or gray polo*)
- **Gillingham Athletic Wear or School Crewneck Sweatshirt (not the G hoodie)** (*needs to be approved by Student Coach; shirts tucked in; no black on black*)
- **Black, Silver, Gray &/or White Tie** (*optional; black, silver, gray &/or white tie to be worn with the white/gray oxford shirt. It may be one solid color or a combination of two or more of the colors.*)

BOTTOMS

All pants and shorts should be appropriately fitted; no cargo, joggng/yoga pant material, side zippers/loops/strings.

Shorts hit at the knee when standing. All bottoms must be free of logos.

- **Tan Khaki Pants & Bermuda Shorts w/Belt Loops**
- **Black Khaki Pants & Bermuda Shorts w/Belt Loops** **Black polo shirts are not allowed with black bottoms.*
- **Tan Khaki Knee Length Skirt K-12th** (*uniform pants material, appropriately fitted, no cargo, plain white, black or gray leggings allowed under skirts*)
- **Black Khaki Knee Length Skirt K-12th** (*uniform pants material, appropriately fitted, no cargo, plain white, black or gray eggings allowed under skirts*)
**Black polo shirts are not allowed with black bottoms.*
- **Tan Khaki Knee Length Jumper K-6th** (*uniform pants material; wear w/ shorts underneath*)
- **Black, Brown, or Gray Belt** (*required - even with longer sweaters; plain w/ small buckle for pants, shorts and skirts with belt loops, K-2 don't have to have a belt if it's too difficult for them*)

FOOTWEAR

- **Shoes**
 - Must be all black or mostly black. ***If this proves too difficult, simply notify the Student Coach to find solutions.***
 - Flat rubber soles.
 - Recommended styles: black oxfords, penny loafers, Mary Janes, t-straps, plain black sneakers.
 - No crocs, boots, flip flops, slippers, boat shoes, moccasins, high heels, soles over 2”; no colored studs/buckles (for safety-sake)
 - Winter Boots may be worn to and from school and worn outside, but they are not worn inside throughout the day. Students change into their uniform shoes.
- **White or Black Socks/Tights** (plain/solid; short & knee highs)

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Grades K-2nd They do **not** change into gym clothes, and they **do not** change their shoes.

Grades 3rd-12th

- **3rd-6th** graders wear required gym clothes to school.
- **7th-12th** graders change at school into required gym clothes for gym. They keep their gym gear in their backpacks. Students who do not wear required gym wear for PE class will receive uniform violations and wear clothes from the uniform closet. Parents will be contacted.

REQUIRED for P.E. classes (grades 3-12)

- **Gillingham Gym T-Shirt** (*available for purchase from the GCS Wolfpack Rack*) *No plain T-shirts.*
- **Gillingham Gym Shorts** (*available for purchase from the GCS Wolfpack Rack*) *No plain shorts.*
- **Tennis Shoes, Sneakers, High Tops** (*an athletic shoe of any color & style is permitted*)
- **White or Black Socks** (*solid/plain; short or knee/shin high*)

OPTIONAL for P.E. classes (grades 3-12)

- **Any “G-Wear” Shirt/Hoodie/Sweatshirt/Sweatpants**
- **Plain Gray Sweatshirt/Hoodie/Sweatshirt** (*no logo*)
- **Plain Black or Gray Sweatpants / Joggers** (*no logo, no yoga pants, tight pants, leggings or tights*)

ACCESSORIES

Jewelry must be minimal & kept small for safety reasons. Dime size or smaller piercings allowed. No hats or scarves inside; no baseball caps or snapbacks. Only winter weather hats can be worn outside during the appropriate season. No buttons, bandanas, chains, or anything that can be misconstrued as gang-related or detrimental for outdoor living and play. Simple headbands only to maintain professionalism (no animal ears, costume headbands, etc). For student and school safety, K-12 students are not allowed to wear hoodies on their heads outside while under GCS supervision.

FACE MASKS

When the school mandates masks or if a child chooses to wear a mask, the following rules for wearing face masks are in accordance with the school's Health and Safety Plan and keep distractions to a minimum:

- Students choose from the following kinds of masks:
 - PLAIN MASK – in one of the following colors: black, silver, gray, white
 - MEDICAL MASK – which is typically blue
 - G-WEAR MASK
- Students must wear masks correctly, covering both mouth and nose.

RECITAL WEAR

A dress code will be sent home prior to each event held at Gillingham if special attire is required. If the dress code is not followed at the event, it may affect the student's ability to participate, and a uniform violation will be assigned.

FIRST FRIDAYS

The entire Gillingham Crew (students, faculty, staff) will DRESS DOWN on the 1st Friday of every month.

All attire needs to be respectful & modest, representing the values of the Gillingham name in such ways as follows: *no vulgar, rude, defamatory messages; no rips; no visible undies; no spaghetti straps; no pajamas; no undue attention to one's body; hats taken off during class/presentations, no hoods worn on head, etc.*

HEALTH & HYGIENE

Students at Gillingham are required to maintain healthy habits of living and hygiene. Students who demonstrate a lack of personal cleanliness (body, hair, odor, clothes) that constitutes a health hazard or learning distraction will be referred to the nurse. The nurse will follow protocol by *discussing hygiene with students, providing hygienic products and instructions on proper use, contacting parents (with repeated offenses), and creating a plan for student hygiene success.* If the problem persists, the student will then be referred to the Student Coach.

RELIGIOUS EXEMPTIONS

All requests for religious exemptions to the uniform code need to be submitted to the Director of Education.