

I. STATEMENT OF POLICY

All elementary, middle, and high school students in Birmingham Public Schools shall within the parameters set forth below, implement the mandatory uniform policy beginning in August 1996.

II. CONDITIONS OF POLICY

Students are expected to dress in proper uniform attire. It will be the parents' responsibility to ensure compliance with the uniform dress policy. All students who attend Birmingham Public Schools must be in uniform.

1. All students will wear the designated school system attire. The clothing may not be altered by slits, cuts, holes, shredded hems, slashes, etc.

MANDATED ATTIRE - GRADES K-8

The designated uniform for students in grades K-8 shall be:

- Males:**
- **Solid white shirt with collar.** No logos on the shirt. This may be a knit shirt, dress shirt, turtleneck, or mock turtleneck.
 - **Navy blue or black pants, "walking" length shorts limited to 2" above the knee (NO DENIM);**
 - **Sweaters - V-neck style, crew neck style, cardigan.** No logos on the sweater. Colors - Navy blue, white.

- Females:**
- **Solid white collared blouse.** No logos on the blouse. This may be a knit shirt, blouse, turtleneck, or mock turtleneck.
 - **Navy blue or black pants, skirts, jumpers, "walking" length shorts limited to 2" above the knee (NO DENIM);**
 - **Sweaters - V-neck style, crew neck style, cardigan.** No logos on the sweater. Colors - Navy blue, white.

MANDATED ATTIRE - Grades 9-12

The designated uniform for students in grades 9-12 shall be:

- Males:**
- **Solid white or light blue shirt with collar.** No logos on the shirt. This may be a knit shirt, dress shirt, turtleneck, or mock turtleneck.
 - **Navy blue, black, or khaki pants, "walking" length shorts limited to 2" above the knee (NO DENIM);**
 - **Sweaters - V-neck style, crew neck style, cardigan.** No logos on the sweater. Colors - Navy blue, white.

- Females:**
- **Solid white or light blue collared blouse.** No logos on the blouse. This may be a knit shirt, blouse, turtleneck, or mock turtleneck.
 - **Navy blue, black, or khaki pants, skirts, jumpers, "walking" length shorts limited to 2" above the knee (NO DENIM);**
 - **Sweaters - V-neck style, crew neck style, cardigan.** No logos on the sweater. Colors - Navy blue, white.

2. Jogging suits/pant suits, warm-up suits, and sweat suits are not permitted. Knit, nylon, spandex, biking, and gym shorts or pants are not permitted. Spandex, nylon, or other tightly fitting clothing is not allowed.
3. Pants worn below the waist and over-sized uniforms are prohibited. Overalls are not permitted.

BIRMINGHAM PUBLIC SCHOOLS UNIFORM DRESS POLICY

4. Belts must be worn with pants if the pants include belt loops.
5. Skin tight clothing or body dresses are not permitted.
6. Tank tops, mesh shirts, halter tops, tube tops, midriff tops, and sleeveless shirts or sleeveless tops are not permitted.
7. Pants may not have cuts, slits, holes, slashes or expose the skin in any manner.
8. Shirts and blouses must be tucked in at all times in such manner that the waist is visible.
9. No undergarments may show.
10. Girls may wear black or blue shorts underneath their skirts provided they do not show.
11. Hats, caps, bandanas, scarves, or head coverings are not permitted.
12. Sunglasses are not permitted.
13. Predominately black, brown, navy blue, or white shoes (including, but not limited to athletic shoes) should be worn. High-priced, brand name shoes are not recommended.
14. Shoes and socks must be worn at all times. Full length tights and knee-high socks/tights are acceptable for girls. Footless leggings are not permitted to be worn under skirts or shorts.

For safety and health reasons, students are to wear covered shoes. Ankle socks are not permitted. Thongs, slippers, sandals (with open toes and heels) and bare feet are not permitted. Shoes which include buckles or laces must be laced or buckled at all times.
15. Clothing or any item bearing any type of offensive, lewd, vulgar, obscene language, slogans, or pictures are not permitted.
16. Clothing or accessories that makes reference to or identifies with gangs or gang-related activity are not permitted.
17. Any buttons, jewelry, and other accessories which contain vulgar, lewd, obscene, or plainly offensive messages or which may lead to substantial interference with school activities, including accessories which advocate the use of alcohol or drugs, are not permitted.
18. Secret society, fraternity, or sorority symbols or lettering are not permitted to be displayed or worn.
19. Rollers, combs, and cosmetology wave clamps are not permitted to be worn in hair.
20. Pouches may not be worn.
21. The principal on occasion will allow a "casual, dress down" or special day of attire due to a special program or activity where students may wear clothing other than the prescribed uniform. If the curriculum suggests special attire, the teacher must notify the administration in advance of the activity to request approval. Students and parents will be notified in advance of school-wide, system-wide, or individual class activities.

- III. No student shall be considered noncompliant with the policy in the following instances:
- a. When noncompliance derives from financial hardship.
 - b. When noncompliance derives from a disability.
 - c. When wearing a uniform violates a student's sincerely held religious belief.

- IV. If the parents or guardians desire not to have their child comply with the *Birmingham Public Schools Uniform Dress Policy* for the reasons set forth in Section III a-c above or due to special extenuating circumstances related to an item in Section II #2-21, the student's parents or guardians must secure an exemption form from their child's school. Approval for the exemption must be granted by the local school administrator according to the guidelines set forth in the exemption section of the *Birmingham Public Schools Uniform Dress Policy* and in accordance with the information requested on the Exemption Form.