



BELMONT ACADEMY

UNIFORM DRESS CODE FOR BELMONT ACADEMY GRADES VPK-12

Adopted 8-22-2016; Rev. 6-12-2017; Rev. 9-25-2017 Rev 3/5/2018

Students are expected to dress for school and school activities in a way that contributes to their health and safety, promotes a positive school learning environment and does not disrupt the events and activities of the school.

The Board finds that a higher standard of dress encourages greater respect for individuals and students, and results in a higher standard of behavior. Our dress code guidelines indicate appropriate dress during normal school days. Belmont Academy reserves the right to interpret these guidelines and/or make changes during the school year. Students are expected to follow these guidelines. Parents select to have their children attend Belmont Academy with full acknowledgment of the expectations and policies.

School Uniforms

All students in VPK through grade 12 are required to wear a school uniform at all times while attending school or any school-sponsored activity during the school day unless prior approval is given.

There are many positive reasons for uniforms, including

- Uniforms encourage students to express their individuality through personality and academic achievements, not outward appearances
- Uniforms put the focus on academics, not fashion, because students project a neat, serious, businesslike image
- Uniforms create a school environment conducive to fewer discipline problems because students are not distracted
- Uniforms can be less expensive
- Uniforms minimize the visible socio-economic differences between children
- Uniforms eliminate pressure to wear brand name clothing, "gang colors," etc.
- Uniforms create a sense of school pride and belonging

Uniform purchases must be made from an approved Belmont Academy uniform provider. This ensures the quality and consistency of the product. It also minimizes challenges that the vendor faces relating to the application of the logo. Belmont Academy is the owner of the logo and does not authorize its application to any product without its prior written consent.

Please be advised that not all of the uniform products provided by these vendors are necessarily acceptable.

Basic Uniforms

Girls:

Uniform style pants (or capris) must be navy in color (no denim jeans)

Navy uniform style shorts that come to the top of the knee (No jean shorts, cargo shorts)

Plaid or navy skirts and jumpers that come to the top of the knee - complimentary colored leggings or tights may be worn under skirts or jumpers

White button down "uniform" shirts with Belmont Academy's logo that are clean and pressed

Polo shirts made available by the uniform company with Belmont Academy's logo

Approved hoodie sweatshirts made available by the uniform company

Navy sweater (button down, V-neck, pullover) with Belmont Academy's logo

Shoe heels/toes must be closed, heels must be a reasonable height, tennis shoes or flats are preferred. Please refer to the section "Additional Considerations" below for additional information.

Any belts- colored, (neutral or otherwise) less than 2 inches wide will be acceptable

Small necklace, bracelet or very small earrings are acceptable (No excessive jewelry). However, please be reminded that the school will not be responsible for any accidents related to jewelry worn on campus

Headbands and hair bows are acceptable

Hair must be neat and clean with no "unnatural" colors or styles (i.e. no bright green, no Mohawks, etc.)

Boys:

Uniform style pants must be navy in color, no denim jeans

Navy uniform style shorts that come to the top of the knee. (No jean shorts, cargo shorts, or skinny leg shorts)

White button down "uniform" shirts with Belmont Academy's logo that are clean and pressed

Polo shirts made available by the uniform company with Belmont Academy's logo

Approved hoodie sweatshirts made available by the uniform company

Navy sweater (button down, V-neck, pullover) with Belmont Academy's logo

Navy sport coat/jacket (gold, navy or silver buttons) with Belmont's logo or without logo is acceptable, and must have full length sleeves

Hair must be neat and clean with no “unnatural” colors or styles and not come over the shirt collar

Black, brown, or navy belts will be acceptable. No neon or bright colored belts

Long neck ties with stripes in any of these color combinations will be acceptable: (Red, white, navy blue) No other colors or patterns will be acceptable

No necklaces, earrings, bracelets or head gear is acceptable for boys with the exception of a warm winter hat outside of the school building when seasonally appropriate.

Clothing must be the appropriate size for the student, not be oversized or undersized. The waist of the garment shall be worn so that the waistband is worn at the waist and not below the waist. Students may not wear baggy/saggy pants.

In addition to the above basic uniform, the principal may designate a more restrictive dress code requirement, if approved by the school’s SAC.

Exceptions

If a student enters Belmont Academy after the start of the school year there will be a grace period of ten (10) school days before being required to wear the school uniform. Students may wear special clothing necessary for a school-sponsored activity, as permitted by the principal.

Students enrolled in a career academy may wear the uniform of that program.

A student’s parent requests a reasonable accommodation to address the student’s disability or medical condition. Such request shall be provided in writing and submitted to the principal for approval; or

The wearing of clothing in compliance with the uniform dress code violated a student’s sincerely held religious belief. Such students and the student’s parents shall submit a signed affidavit setting forth the religious issues and the requested exemption to the policy.

Additional Considerations:

Shoes must be safe and appropriate. Students may not wear bedroom slippers or shoes with wheels.

For safety purposes, students may not wear body piercings of any type. At no time are students to wear anything offensive, immodest, or deemed inappropriate by the faculty.

No sandals, flip-flops, or shoes with any metal tips may be worn. No boots of any style. We encourage an extra set of gym shoes or tennis shoes to be brought for recess and/or PE period of the day.

Outerwear should not be worn inside the building. Winter coats, jackets, and hats will be acceptable outside of the classrooms during the cold season. The outer garments must be of the appropriate size for the student and shall not be overly baggy or violate any other provisions of the dress code.

Students may wear hats, or other sun-protective wear while outdoors during school hours.

A Belmont Academy approved jacket/coat is available through the approved vendors.

Students may not wear:

- A. Clothing that is not properly fastened;
- B. Clothing or hairstyles that disrupt the orderly learning environment;
- C. Clothing that is torn, has holes, or pants that are frayed;
- D. Athletic shorts, cut-off pants, jeggings, short-shorts, or running shorts;
- E. Clothing that exposes body parts in an indecent and vulgar manner;
- F. Clothing that is unlined sheer or unlined lace;
- G. Clothing that is form fitting, leotard or spandex, unless proper outer garments are worn over top of it;
- H. Visible undergarments, sleepwear or outer garments traditionally designed as undergarments such as boxer shorts or bras;
- I. Outer garments or accessories (such as backpacks, jewelry, and purses) which have slogans, signs, images, or symbols that:
 - 1. Promote drugs, alcohol, tobacco, gang identification, weapons, or lewd sexual behavior or
 - 2. Denigrate or promote discrimination for or against an individual or group on the basis of age, color, disability, national origin, sexual orientation, race, religion or gender.
- J. Hats, hoods, bandanas, sweatbands, headgear, or other head coverings, inside the school building, except when approved by the principal/designee;
- K. Jewelry or accessories that may be used as weapons, such as chains, spiked jewelry or arm bands;
- L. Combs, curlers, or hair picks

Financial Considerations/Assistance

Students will not be denied attendance at school or be otherwise penalized for failing to wear clothing that complies with the school uniform if such failure is due to financial hardship. Parents/guardians should notify the principal if assistance is needed.

The principal shall develop procedures to offer assistance to students who would have or are having difficulty complying with the school uniform policy due to financial hardships and shall develop a program to provide for uniform donations or uniform clothing.

Discipline

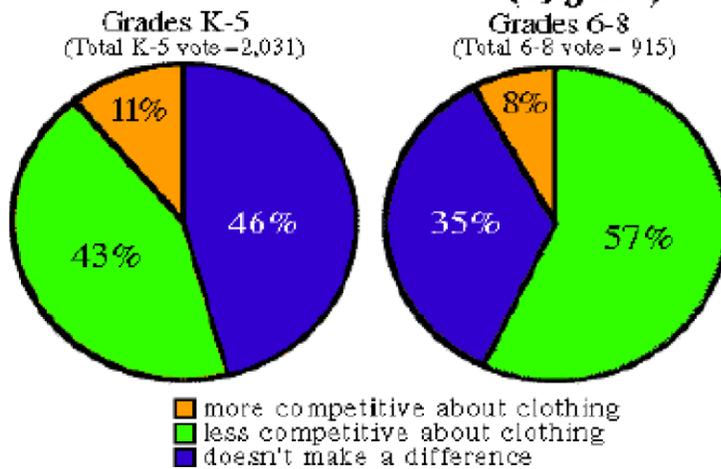
The principal or designee has the authority to decide if clothing complies with Board policy. If the principal determines that a student's clothing does not comply with Board policy, a parent/guardian may be asked to bring an appropriate change of clothes to school, or the student may be asked to leave an after-school activity. The student may also receive a disciplinary consequence for violating the school's dress code policy. Repeated violations may result in progressively more serious consequences at the Principal's discretion.

A decision made by the principal may be appealed through the procedures permitted within the Code of Student Conduct.

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Please be aware of what your children are wearing before they head out of your home, and into our school. These rules of dress code conduct are meant to keep our school, classrooms, and more importantly, our children looking and acting the best possible. Studies show that children in uniforms are less likely to be competitive about clothing, thus taking the focus off of what they wear and putting it more into the learning process. Here at Belmont we are committed to making sure that our children get the best possible education!

Do school uniforms make kids more or less competitive about clothing? (by grade)



SAMPLE DRESS CODE VIOLATION NOTIFICATION:

Dear Parent:

Your child came to school today in less than acceptable uniform clothing. The following item(s) were unacceptable _____.

We are asking you to please review your child's school wardrobe and make sure that she/he has the proper items required for Belmont's uniform code. (Please see parent handbook to review these items.) We expect that your child will be in proper uniform on the following morning of school.

Thank you for acknowledging our policies and helping to keep our school children looking great!

(Parent signature)

(Administration signature)