School Clothing and Dress Code

Teachers at WSA are committed to the full growth and potential of each student. The dress code supports this endeavor by focusing on the preservation of childhood and the provision of an environment conducive to learning in addition to addressing comfort and safety. Many learning activities require appropriate clothing for vigorous movement, playing, and working in varying conditions both indoors and outside.

In Waldorf schools, special attention is accorded to creating a visually pleasing environment, recognizing that students are nourished by beauty in their surroundings, free from the distractions that are so present in our busy culture. The school acknowledges that clothing considered appropriate in other environments may not be suitable or allowed at school. We intend to provide a school environment that protects childhood and nurtures the imagination. We ask that you adhere to the following guidelines to support this intention:

- Clothing is in good repair and well-fitted, not ripped, frayed or extending over hands or feet nor so loose that it slips out of place during movement.
- Clothing, including outerwear, should be free of images, words, or numerals. Camouflage patterns and sheer fabrics are not allowed. Neon should be avoided, but it is permissible as trim on clothing or shoes.
- The only images allowable are those from nature and logos smaller than 2” x 2”.
- School Spirit wear (WSA t-shirts and Pentathlon shirts) are allowed. WSA sports uniforms are allowed on game days only.
- Midriff, back, chest, and undergarments are covered during all activities even when arms are extended overhead. As young children grow quickly, parents should check periodically to make sure clothing still fits.
- Shorts must have a 3” inseam or longer.
- Skirts must reach at least mid-thigh when standing.
- Clothing may not be so tight that it restricts movement or participation in school activities.
- Clothing may not have low necklines.
- Undergarments must not be visible at any time.
- Hats and hoods are not worn inside the buildings.
• Dyed or highlighted hair is not permitted from Kindergarten through Grade 5

• Hair may not be dyed in bright or unnatural hair colors nor styled in extreme styles with hair products (i.e., gels, waxes, hairspray)

• Writing and drawing on clothing/skin and temporary tattoos are not allowed.

• Makeup and nail polish may not be brought to school.

• Makeup is permitted only in Grades 6-8.

• Watches must be on silent; any noise from a watch is not allowed.

• No perfume or other strongly scented products should be worn.

• Teachers may make individual exceptions to the above as prescribed for an optimal learning environment and pedagogical reasons.

Assembly Attire

ASSEMBLY AND RECITAL DRESS

• A dress shirt (collared button-down, polo, blouse)
• Dress pants (with belt), skirt, or a dress
• Dress shoes or sandals

Parents will be called and asked to bring a change of clothes for children who are not properly dressed for an assembly. An exception to the dress wear standard will be made on the first and last days of school when the weather is hot. For these two occasions, grades students may wear shorts with a belt. Shirts must be tucked in unless it is designed to be worn untucked, such as a Havana shirt. Additionally, middle school students are often asked to wear black and white, especially for orchestral or choral performances. Kindergarten students may wear their regular school-day attire.

Dress Code Infraction Consequences

Students not in compliance with the dress code may be given an appropriate item of clothing to wear for the day, may be asked to wear the item inside out, or a parent may be contacted to bring a replacement item. Dress code infractions will be recorded, and parents will be notified. Frequent violations of the Dress Code Policy will result in a parent/teacher conference.

For middle school students, a discipline slip will go home. At the third dress code offense, a Saturday School will be assigned.
Teachers may make exceptions for optimal learning environment and for pedagogical reasons. WSA reserves the right to send a child home in cases of extremely distracting appearances.

**Footwear**

Students at The Waldorf School of Atlanta spend extensive time outdoors: running, jumping, swinging, climbing trees, etc. Teachers find that high-quality, well-fitting, sturdy shoes support and protect the child at school, enabling him or her to fully participate in this very active education. For safety reasons, school shoes should tie, buckle, or close with Velcro tabs. (While shoes with Velcro closures may be suitable for the younger child, kindergarten and elementary school children benefit from the challenge of a tie shoe.) In general, sneakers and running shoes are the best shoes for school.

Loose or open-toed shoes such as flip-flops, jellies, crocs, clogs, cowboy boots, or shoes with a raised heel or wheels are not permitted, because they impede active movement so important in the Waldorf curriculum.

Middle school students may be allowed to wear open-toed sandals or clogs on particular days during the year.