Uniform Policy 2024-2025

Uniforms are required at the Girls' School of Austin, and each student is expected to adhere to the dress code. The uniform regulations are intended to help parents/guardians and students avoid any misunderstanding of the school's expectations. Our dress code ensures that students' clothing is appropriate attire for learning and representing the GSA. In addition, the uniform policy creates a more equitable and intentional learning environment by limiting distractions and divisiveness that can come with expensive/high status brands or locales. All students are expected to follow GSA's uniform policy and be clean and neat.

GSA Uniform Requirements:

- All polo shirts must have the approved GSA logo.
- Cardigans, hoodies, and sweatshirts may or may not have the GSA logo, but they must be solid colored; no other words, patterns, or images are allowed. If there is a brand logo, it should be ~2 inches or smaller.
- Sweatpants and athletic wear (exercise tights, pants, or shorts) are not allowed except for PE.
- Leggings may be worn like tights, not like pants (under navy blue skirt/skort/shorts), so they can be treated like tights - colors, patterns, etc. are fine!
- GSA students of all ages run, play, climb, etc.; all students must wear closed-toed shoes that enable them to run around. *For safety purposes, sandals, flip-flops, or other open-toed shoes may not be worn by our students.*
- Please note that outerwear (coats/jackets) worn during cold weather may be any color but may not be worn in the classroom.
- Hats may be worn outside only.

<u>NOTE:</u> Parents are requested to label all articles of clothing with student's name and grade.

Dress Uniform (every Monday and for most day field trips)	
Shirt	White polo shirt - long or short sleeved with GSA logo
Skort/Skirt/Shorts/Pants	Navy blue - Skirts, shorts, and skorts must be mid-thigh length
Shoes	Any athletic tennis shoes, Mary Janes, or ballet slipper-style shoes
Socks/Tights/Leggings	Personal preference
Cardigan/Hoodie/Sweatshirt	Navy (with or without GSA logo)

Tuesday – Friday	
Shirt	Red, Navy, Blue, White, Purple or Yellow polo shirt - long or short sleeved with GSA logo **Friday Option:** Any official GSA Spirit Wear shirt with logo from current or past years.
Skort/Skirt/Shorts/Pants	Navy blue - Skirts, shorts, and skorts must be mid-thigh length **Friday Option – 7th and 8th Graders only!** may wear jeans or jeans shorts (regular blue jeans, no holes, not skintight, no jeggings)
Shoes	**Lower School:** Any athletic tennis shoes, Mary Janes, or ballet slipper-style shoes **Middle School:** Any closed-toe shoes
Socks/Tights/Leggings	Personal preference
Cardigan/Hoodie/Sweatshirt	Solid-colored; optional GSA logo. No other words, patterns, or images are allowed. Brand logos must be <2 inches in size.

P.E. Uniforms – All Grades
Any student may change for P.E. but must change back into their uniform prior to returning to their next class.

Middle School students are required to change for P.E.

Approved P.E. attire:

- Any color bottoms
- Any color shirt (no spaghetti straps or midriffs)
- Uniform-approved hooded jacket or sweatshirt
- Athletic/tennis shoes

Jewelry:
For safety reasons and the potential risk of loss, students are encouraged to limit jewelry wearing to simple earrings and/or a simple necklace.

- Jewelry may be worn for religious or cultural purposes
- Students may be required to remove jewelry or tape over jewelry for P.E.
- School administration will judge the appropriateness of any questionable article of jewelry.

Fingernail Polish/Cosmetics:
Nail polish is discouraged but may be worn. Acrylic/fake nails are not allowed.
Nail length needs to be conducive to playing an instrument and typing on a keyboard.

Students in grades K-6 are not permitted to wear makeup.

Seventh and Eighth graders are discouraged from wearing makeup.
If worn, makeup should be subtle in appearance and limited to neutral eyeshadow, mascara, blush, and lip gloss. If a student's makeup use is overt, gaudy, or "costume-y," they will be asked to remove it.
Students are not allowed to apply cosmetics at school.

Field Trip Attire:
In general, students will dress in Monday dress uniform for field trips. Exceptions will be made on a case-by-case basis, depending upon the activity. Exceptions require the approval of the Head of School.

Concert Attire:
For piano and strings concerts, students should wear Monday dress uniform.

Chamber ensemble members are asked to wear concert black attire and black shoes – Mary Jane or ballet slipper style, or other dress shoes – no sneakers or high heels.

Free Dress Days:
For Middle School students, the last Wednesday of each month is Free Dress Day. All students who have not had a uniform code violation that month may participate.

Other Free Dress Days may be called by the Head of School and include the Lower School.

On Free Dress Days, clothing must follow the regular guidelines for length and neatness (finger-tip length; no rips; closed-toed shoes, etc…).

- T-shirt/sweatshirt graphics should not have inappropriate or offensive messages, including images, ads, or words that promote violence, drugs, or alcohol.
- Pajamas and costumes are also not appropriate for Free Dress Days.

Non-compliance with uniform code:
Any staff member may ask a student to remove or replace any articles of clothing or accessories that do not comply with our uniform code. The school administration reserves the right to authorize or prohibit any individual item of clothing, even if it is not specifically stated in the uniform code.

If a student is found to be out of compliance, a teacher or staff member will ask the student to change into uniform clothing that is on hand in the uniform closet or student cubbies; if there is no uniform clothing on hand, the school will ask that parents bring a change in outfit. The student can return to class when they are dressed in compliance with the dress code.