



Charlotte Preparatory School Dress Code

We partner with our parents to nurture the leaders of tomorrow. To develop leadership, Charlotte Prep believes students need to display a sense of pride in the way they present themselves and this is demonstrated through dress choices. To that end, parents are expected to support and enforce the school dress code.

Students should attend school in clothes that are neat, clean and in good repair. Good taste and common sense should dictate parental and student choice of school clothes. We expect students to refrain from assuming any kind of personal appearance or wearing any kind of clothing that might distract from the process of teaching and learning. Safety must always be a consideration.

Please be advised that should a student violate the dress code, he or she may be sent home to change clothes and return wearing appropriate attire.

Early School Dress Code

Comfortable, easy-to-manage play clothes are the best for Early School students. Children will be engaging in potentially messy work throughout the day, from the classroom to the playground. We encourage independence in the children. They are responsible for dressing and undressing themselves. Teachers are available only to assist. Back buttoning, belts, suspenders or one-piece outfits are very difficult for children. The result can be a bathroom accident.

Shirts, shorts and pants should not display graphics of commercial images such as action figures (Spiderman, Power Rangers, etc.), cartoon characters (Mickey Mouse, Barbie, etc.) or another school. Shorts, skirts and dresses should be at appropriate lengths.

Proper footwear should be worn at all times. Flip-flops, clogs, Crocs and high-top basketball shoes are not allowed and cause problems for younger children walking in the classroom and especially on the playground. Shoes that “light up” or shoes that have retractable wheels cause a distraction in the classroom and should not be worn. Clogs or shoes that are not securely fitted to the student’s feet with back straps are not recommended. Low-top tennis shoes are best.

Students may not wear hats, caps or other head coverings, other than yarmulkes as an expression of faith anywhere on campus. Head covering is allowed for warmth in the winter and sun protection in the spring and summer.

Lower & Middle School Dress Code

Shirts: Boys must wear shirts with collars.

Girls should wear appropriate tops. Halters, tanks, spaghetti straps*, revealing or provocative tops, or tops that expose the midriff area, are not allowed. Sleeveless tops are acceptable if the shoulder straps are at least 2 inches wide.

* Formalwear for dances and graduation may be an exception if appropriate.

Shirts should not display graphics, logos, words, phrases or numbers of any kind or size. This applies to the front, back and sleeves of the garment. The only exception is the tiny icon on boy’s collared shirts, usually found in the top left corner. Commercial images (cartoon characters, action figures, retail establishments, sports teams, other schools, etc.) cannot be displayed on clothing or visible beneath. This also applies to outerwear.

Shorts/Pants: Shorts and/or pants should not display graphics, logos, words, phrases or numbers of any kind or size. This applies to the front and back of the garment.

When standing, the length of skirts, dresses and shorts should be no more than 4 inches above the knee. Bathing suits, spandex shorts, short shorts and excessively tight shorts are not acceptable. Athletic shorts are not to be worn on non-PE days.

Lower & Middle School Dress Code, cont'd

Footwear: Footwear should be worn at all times. Flip-flops are not allowed on any child regardless of grade level. Clogs or shoes that are not securely fitted to the student's feet with back straps are not allowed in the Early and Lower Schools. High heels are never appropriate footwear for school.

Tennis shoes or other appropriate athletic shoes should be worn on PE days and/or tennis and golf class days.

Hair and Head Coverings: Boys' hair may not be longer than their shirt collar in the back, and may not hang below the eyebrows in the front. Boys' and girls' hair, and hair accessories, should not be a distraction to other students. Extreme hair colors are not allowed.

Students may not wear hats, caps, or other head coverings, other than yarmulkes as an expression of faith, anywhere on campus during the academic school day, nor inside the buildings at any time. Head covering is allowed for sun protection or for warmth in the winter, but only outdoors.

Miscellaneous

- Boys may not wear earrings at any time, either to school or to any school event, on or off campus.
- Girls and boys may not wear dangling jewelry, hair accessories, or other accessories that can disrupt study or may be harmful on the playground. This includes large hoop earrings.
- Students may not wear clothes with frayed ends or cutoffs. There should be no tears, rips or holes in clothes. Students should not wear clothing that is excessively baggy or tight.
- Clothes should not display another school.
- Clothes should not display or suggest offensive language, sex, alcohol or drugs.
- Students may not wear outerwear resembling underwear (e.g., long johns, undershirts).
- Students may not wear tie-dyed or camouflage items to school.
- Students' clothing should not convey any excessive fashion trend (e.g. punk, gothic, hippie, etc.)
- Appropriateness of clothing and accessories is at the discretion of the Division Head or Dean of Student Conduct.

Additional Required Attire

Dress Fridays

Lower School: Lower School also observes a Dress Friday program, where Lower School students wear Charlotte Prep polo shirts every Friday.

Middle School: Charlotte Prep Middle School students will observe "Dress Friday" on the last Friday of each month. This is an opportunity for students to dress more formally within the school environment, and understand the social expectations associated with more formal dress and behavior.

Boys are expected to wear long pants (no jeans) with a belt, a collared dress shirt, a tie, and dress shoes and socks. A jacket is optional for boys. Girls should wear a skirt, dress or dress slacks. Girls should not wear high heels, Ugg boots or footwear of similar types. Tennis shoes may be brought, by boys and girls, for use during Morning Break and Lunch Recess. For students who have PE on Fridays, time will be provided for them to change into PE uniforms. Middle School Dress Friday dates are noted in the Charlotte Prep wall calendar, and a reminder appears in that week's Monday Memo.

PE Days

Lower School: On PE days, children should wear a Charlotte Prep T-shirt and dark, solid-colored shorts or athletic pants. Shirts are available for a nominal cost through the school's online store. Denim shorts/pants are not allowed on PE days.

Middle School: For PE class, a Charlotte Prep T-shirt and Charlotte Prep athletic shorts or Charlotte Prep PE shorts are required (no game shorts). Shirts and shorts are available for a nominal cost through the school's online store.

In cold weather, students may wear a Charlotte Prep sweatshirt and/or dark, solid-colored athletic pants. Appropriate athletic shoes should be worn during PE class.

Concert Attire

Lower School (3rd and 4th Grades): Charlotte Prep Polo shirt, khaki pants/skirts (no shorts) and nice shoes.

Middle School (5th – 8th Grades): Black pants or appropriate-length skirts, white shirts (collared for boys) and black shoes.

Charlotte Prep Spirit Wear

Parents can purchase PE uniforms, hats, ties and other spirit wear through Charlotte Prep's online store. A link is located on the Downloads page on the school Web site, www.charlotteprep.com.

Periodically during the year, the Charlotte Prep Booster Club offers high-quality, premium Charlotte Prep sports and spirit wear. The timing of these sales is announced in the Monday Memo.

We have a special arrangement with the Lands' End clothing company. You may order anything from their School Uniforms catalog and have the Charlotte Prep logo embroidered on it. Please use the following codes when ordering:

Preferred School Number: 900044371

Logo Number: 9939 283K

Embroidering Fee: \$5.50

www.landsend.com/schooluniforms

